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TOTAL FUNDS	...	£3.272.576
TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME	...	£354,686
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS UPON DEATH	...	£2 524.560
AMOUNT OF PROFITS DIVIDED AT THE LAST QUINQUENNIAL BONUS	...	£437,347

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CAUTION.—BEWARE OF PIRACY AND IMITATIONS.

CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated that Dr. J. Collis Browne was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of Chlorodyne; that the story of the Defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, had been sworn to."—See "Times," 13th July, 1854.

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THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

The following is a complete list of the members of the new Parliament, including the double return from St. Andrew's Burghs. The asterisk (*) is appended to the names of those who were members of the late Parliament.

ENGLAND.—465 Members.

METROPOLIS.

CONSTITUENCIES.	MEMBERS.
BATTERSEA & CLAPHAM (two divs.):—	
Battersea	O. V. Morgan, R
Clapham	J. F. Moulton, R
BETHNAL-GREEN (two divisions):—	
North-East	G. Howell, R
South-West	E. H. Pickersgill, R
CAMBERWELL (three divisions):—	
North	R. Strong, R
Peckham	A. A. Baumann, C
Dulwich	J. M. Howard, Q.C., C
CHELSEA (1)	*Rt. Hon. Sir C. W. Dilke, R
DEPTFORD (1)	W. J. Evelyn, C
FINSBURY (three divisions):—	
Holborn	Colonel F. Duncan, C
Central	Howard Spensley, R
East	J. Bigwood C
FULHAM (1)	W. H. Fishor, C
GREENWICH (1)	*T. W. Boord, C
HACKNEY (three divisions):—	
North	Major-General Sir L. Pelly, C
Central	Sir W. G. Hunter, C
South	*C. Russell, Q.C., R
HAMMERSMITH (1)	Colonel Goldsworthy, C
HAMPSTEAD (1)	*Sir H. Holland, C
ISLINGTON (four divisions):—	
Northern	G. C. T. Bartley, C
Western	R. Chamberlain, R
Eastern	*H. B. Ince, Q.C., R
Southern	H. Spicer, R
KENSINGTON (two divisions):—	
Northern	R. Lethbridge, C
Southern	Sir A. Borthwick, C
LAMBETH (four divisions):—	
North	Gen. C. Fraser, V.C., C.B., C
Kennington	R. Gent-Davis, C
Brixton	E. Baggallay, C
Norwood	T. L. Bristowe, C
LEWISHAM (1)	*Viscount Lewisham, C
LONDON CITY (2)	*Ald. Sir R. N. Fowler, C *J. G. Hubbard, C
MARYLEBONE (two divisions):—	
East	Lord C. Beresford, C
West	F. S. Hunt, C
NEWINGTON (two divisions):—	
West	C. W. R. Cooke, C
Walworth	L. H. Isaacs, C
PADDINGTON (two divisions):—	
North	L. L. Cohen, C
South	*Lord R. Churchill, C
ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER-SQUARE (1)	*Lord A. Percy, C
ST. PANCRAS (four divisions):—	
North	T. H. Bolton, R
East	T. E. Gibb, R
West	H. L. W. Lawson, R
South	Sir J. Goldsmid, R
SHOREDITCH (two divisions):—	
Hoxton	*Professor J. Stuart, R
Haggerston	R. W. Cremer, R
SOUTHWARK (three divisions):—	
West	*A. Cohen, Q.C., R
Rotherhithe	Colonel Hamilton, C
Bermondsey	*J. E. T. Rogers, R
STRAND (1)	*Rt. Hon. W. H. Smith, C
TOWER HAMLETS (seven divisions):—	
Whitechapel	S. Montagu, R
St. George's	*C. T. Ritchie, C
Limehouse	E. S. Norris, C
Mile-end	S. Charrington, C
Stepney	J. C. Durant, R
Bow and Bromley	W. S. Robson, R
Poplar	H. Green, R
WANDSWORTH (1)	H. Kimber, C
WEST HAM (two divisions):—	
North	E. R. Cook, R
South	J. Leicester, R
WESTMINSTER (1)	W. L. A. B. Burdett-Coutts, C
WOOLWICH (1)	E. Hughes, C

UNIVERSITIES.

CAMBRIDGE (2)	*Rt. Hon. A. J. B. Beresford-Hope, C *Rt. Hon. H. C. Raikes, C
LONDON (1)	*Sir J. Lubbock, R
OXFORD (2)	*Rt. Hon. J. R. Mowbray, C *J. G. Talbot, C

BOROUGHS.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE (1)	J. E. Addison, Q.C., C
ASTON MANOR (1)	H. G. Reid, R
BARROW-IN-FURNESS (1)	D. Duncan, R
BATH (2)	R. S. Blaine, C *E. R. Wodehouse, R
BEDFORD (1)	*S. Whitbread, R
BIRKENHEAD (1)	Gen. Sir E. B. Hamley, C
BIRMINGHAM (seven divisions):—	
Edgbaston	G. Dixon, R
West	*Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain, R
Central	*Rt. Hon. J. Bright, R
North	Alderman W. Kenrick, R
East	W. Cook, R
Bordesley	*H. Broadhurst, R
South	Alderman P. Williams, R
BLACKBURN (2)	*W. Coddington, C *Sir R. Peel, C
BOLTON (2)	*J. K. Cross, C Colonel Hon. F. Bridgeman, C
BOSTON (1)	W. J. Ingram, R
BRADFORD (three divisions):—	
West	*A. Illingworth, R
Central	*Rt. Hon. W. E. Forster, R
East	A. Holden, R
BRIGHTON (2)	*Rt. Hn. W. T. Marriott, Q.C., C Ald. D. Smith, C
BRISTOL (four divisions):—	
West (including Clifton)	*Rt. Hn. Sir M. Hicks-Beach, C
North	*L. Fry, R
East	H. Cossham, R
South	J. D. Weston, R
BURNLEY (1)	*P. Rylands, R
BURY, LANCASHIRE (1)	*Rt. Hon. Sir H. James, Q.C., R
BURY ST. EDMUNDS (1)	Lord F. Hervey, C
CAMBRIDGE (1)	R. U. Penrose-FitzGerald, C
CANTERBURY (1)	J. H. Heaton, C
CARLISLE (1)	*R. Ferguson, R
CHATHAM (1)	*Sir J. E. Gorst, C
CHELTENHAM (1)	J. T. Agg-Gardner, C
CHESTER (1)	Dr. B. Foster, R
CHRISTCHURCH (1)	C. B. Young, C
COLCHESTER (1)	H. J. Trotter, C
COVENTRY (1)	*H. W. Eaton, C
CROYDON (1)	*W. Grantham, Q.C., C
DARLINGTON (1)	*T. Fry, R
DERBY (2)	*Rt. Hon. Sir W. V. Harcourt, R *T. Roe, R
DEVONPORT (2)	*J. H. Puleston, C *Captain G. E. Price, C
DEWSBURY (1)	*Serjeant J. Simon, R
DOVER (1)	*Major A. G. Dickson, C
DUDLEY (1)	*H. B. Sheridan, R
DURHAM CITY (1)	T. Milvain, C
EXETER (1)	*Hon. H. S. Northcote, C
GATESHEAD (1)	*W. H. James, R
GLOUCESTER CITY (1)	T. Robinson, R
GRANTHAM (1)	*J. W. Mellor, R
GRAVESEND (1)	J. B. White, C
GRIMSBY (1)	*E. Heneage, R
HALIFAX (2)	*Right Hon. J. Stansfeld, R *T. Shaw, R
HANLEY (1)	*W. Woodall, R
HARTLEPOOL (1)	*T. Richardson, R
HASTINGS (1)	*Sir T. Brassey, R
HEREFORD CITY (1)	*J. Pulley, R
HUDDERSFIELD (1)	*E. A. Leatham, R
HULL, KINGSTON-UPON (three divs.):—	
East	W. Saunders, R
Central	H. S. King, C
West	*C. H. Wilson, R
HYTHE (1)	*Sir E. Watkin, Bd.
IPSWICH (2)	*J. Collins, R *H. W. West, Q.C., R
KIDDERMINSTER (1)	*J. Brinton, R
KING'S LYNN (1)	*Hon. R. Bourke, C
LEEDS (five divisions):—	
North	*W. L. Jackson, C
Central	G. W. Balfour, C
East	R. Dawson, C
West	*H. J. Gladstone, R
South	*Sir L. Playfair, R
LEICESTER (2)	*A. M'Arthur, R *J. A. Pieton, R
LINCOLN CITY (1)	*Joseph Ruston, R
LIVERPOOL (nine divisions):—	
Kirkdale	G. S. Baden-Powell, C
Walton	J. G. Gibson, Q.C., C
Everton	E. Whitley, C
West Derby	Lord C. Hamilton, C
Scotland	*T. P. O'Connor, H R
Exchange	L. R. Bailey, C
Abercrombie	F. Lawrence, C
East Toxteth	*Baron H. de Worms, C
West Toxteth	T. B. Royden, C
MAIDSTONE (1)	Major A. H. Ross, C
MANCHESTER (six divisions):—	
North-West	*W. H. Houldsworth, C
North	J. F. Hutton, C
North-East	Sir J. Fergusson, C
East	*A. J. Balfour, C
South	Sir H. Roscoe, R
South-West	Lord F. Hamilton, C
MIDDLESBROUGH (1)	*I. Wilson, R
MONMOUTH DIST. (1)	*E. H. Carbutt, R
MORPETH (1)	*T. Burt, R
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (2)	*J. Cowen, R *J. Morley, R
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME (1)	*W. S. Allen, R
NORTHAMPTON (2)	*H. Labouchere, R *C. Bradlaugh, R
NORWICH (2)	*J. J. Colman, R H. Bullard, C
NOTTINGHAM (three divisions):—	
West	*Colonel C. Seely, R
East	*A. Morley, R
South	J. C. Williams, R
OLDHAM (2)	*J. T. Hibbert, R J. M. Maclean, C
OXFORD CITY (1)	A. W. Hall, C
PENRHYN and FALMOUTH (1)	*D. J. Jenkins, R
PETERBOROUGH (1)	W. J. W. Fitzwilliam, Ind. C
PLYMOUTH (2)	*E. Clarke, Q.C., C Sir E. Bates, C
PONTEFRACT (1)	Rowland Winn, C
PORTSMOUTH (2)	P. Vanderbyl, R Sir W. Crossman, R
PRESTON (2)	*W. E. M. Tomlinson, C R. W. Hanbury, C
READING (1)	C. J. Murdock, C
ROCHDALE (1)	*T. B. Potter, R.
ROCHESTER (1)	Lieut.-Col. H. Hallett, C
ST. HELEN'S (1)	H. Seton-Karr, C
SALFORD (three divisions):—	
North	E. Hardcastle, C
West	*B. Armitage, R.
South	W. Mather, R
SALISBURY (1)	W. H. Grenfell, R
SCARBOROUGH (1)	Sir G. Sitwell, C
SHEFFIELD (five divisions):—	
Attercliffe	Hon. B. Coleridge, R
Brightside	*Rt. Hon. A. J. Mundella, R
Central	H. Vincent, C
Hallam	*C. B. Stuart-Wortley, C
Ecclesall	*E. Ashmead-Bartlett, C
SHREWSBURY (1)	J. Watson, C
SOUTHAMPTON (2)	Sir J. Commerell, C *A. Giles, C
SOUTH SHIELDS (1)	*J. C. Stevenson, R
STAFFORD (1)	*B. M'Laren, R
STALYBRIDGE (1)	T. H. Sidebottom, C
STOCKPORT (2)	L. J. Jennings, C W. Tipping, C
STOCKTON (1)	*J. Dodds, R
STOKE-UPON-TRENT (1)	W. L. Bright, R
SUNDERLAND (2)	*E. T. Gourley, R *Alderman Storey, R
TAUNTON (1)	*S. C. Allsopp, C
TYNEMOUTH (1)	R. S. Donkin, C
WAKEFIELD (1)	*E. Green, C
WALSALL (1)	*Sir C. Forster, R
WARRINGTON (1)	Sir G. Greenall, C
WARWICK AND LEAMINGTON (1)	*Right Hon. A. W. Peel, R
WEDNESBURY (1)	Wilson Lloyd, C.
WEST BROMWICH (1)	J. H. Blades, R
WHITEHAVEN (1)	*Rt. Hn. G. F. C. Bentinck, C
WIGAN (1)	F. S. Powell, C
WINCHESTER (1)	*A. L. Tottenham, C
WINDSOR (1)	*Col. R. Richardson Gardner, C
WOLVERHAMPTON (three divisions):—	
East	*H. H. Fowler, R
South	*Rt. Hon. C. P. Villiers, R
West	A. Hickman, C
WORCESTER (1)	G. H. Allsopp, C
YARMOUTH, GREAT (1)	*Sir H. Tyler, C
YORK CITY (2)	F. Lockwood, R. A. E. Pease, R

COUNTIES.

BEDFORDSHIRE (two divisions):—	
Northern or Biggleswade	*C. Magniac, R
Southern or Luton	*C. Flower, R
BERKSHIRE (three divisions):—	
Northern or Abingdon	*P. Wroughton, C
Southern or Newbury	W. G. Mount, C
Eastern or Wokingham	Sir G. Russell, C
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (three divisions):—	
Northern or Bucking'm	Capt. E. H. Verney, R.N., R
Mid or Aylesbury	Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, R
Southern or Wycombe	Viscount Curzon, C
CAMBRIDGESHIRE (three divisions):—	
Northern or Wisbech	J. Rigby, Q.C., R
Western or Chesterton	C. Hall, Q.C., C
Eastern or Newmarket	G. Newnes, R
CHESHIRE (eight divisions):—	
Wirral	Captain E. T. D. Cotton, C
Eddisbury	*H. J. Tollemache, C
Macclesfield	W. C. Brocklehurst, R
Crewe	G. W. Latham, R
Northwich	J. T. Brunner, R
Altrincham	J. Brooks, C
Hyde	T. G. Ashton, R
Knutsford	*Hon. A. de T. Egerton, C
CORNWALL (six divisions):—	
Western or St. Ives	*Sir J. St. Aubyn, R
North-Western or Camborne	C. A. V. Conybeare, R
Truro	W. Bickford-Smith, R
Mid or St. Austell	*W. C. Borlase, R
S.-Eastern or Bodmin	*L. H. Courtney, R
North-Eastern or Launceston	*T. C. D. Acland, R
CUMBERLAND (four divisions):—	
Northern or Eskdale	R. A. Allison, R
Mid or Penrith	H. C. Howard, R
Cockermouth	C. J. Valentine, C
Western or Egremont	Lord Muncaster, C
DERBYSHIRE (seven divisions):—	
High Peak	Captain W. Sidebottom, C
North-Eastern	*Admiral Hon. F. Egerton, R
Chesterfield	*A. Barnes, R
Western	*Lord E. Cavendish, R
Mid	J. A. Jacoby, R
Ilkeston	T. Watson, R
Southern	H. Wardle, R
DEVONSHIRE (eight divisions):—	
Eastern or Honiton	*Sir J. H. Kennaway, C
N.-Eastern or Tiverton	*Colonel W. H. Walrond, C
Nthrn. or South Moulton	*Viscount Lymington, R
North-Western or Barnstaple	G. Pitt-Lewis, R
Western or Tavistock	*Viscount Ebrington, R
Southern or Totnes	F. Mildmay, R
Torquay	L. M'Iver, R
Mid or Ashburton	C. Seale-Hayne, R
DORSET (four divisions):—	
Northern	Hon. E. B. Portman, R
Eastern	P. C. Glyn, R
Southern	H. B. Sturges, R
Western	H. R. Farquharson, C
DURHAM (eight divisions):—	
Jarrow	*C. M. Palmer, R
Houghton-le-Spring	J. Wilson, R
Chester-le-Street	J. Joicey, R
North-Western	A. Jones, R
Mid	W. Crawford, R
South-Eastern	Sir H. Havelock-Allan, R
Bishop Auckland	J. M. Paulton, R
Barnard Castle	*Sir J. Pease, R
ESSEX (eight divisions):—	
South-Western or Walthamstow	E. N. Buxton, R
Southern or Romford	J. Westlake, R
Western or Epping	*Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson, C
Northern or Saffron Walden	H. Gardner, R
N.-Eastern or Harwich	*J. Round, C
Eastern or Maldon	A. G. Kitching, R
Mid or Chelmsford	W. J. Beadel, C
South-Eastern	*Colonel Makins, C
GLOUCESTERSHIRE (five divisions):—	
Mid or Stroud	*H. R. Brand, R
North'n or Tewkesbury	*J. R. Yorke, C
Eastern or Cirencester	A. B. Winterbotham, R
Forest of Dean	T. Blake, R
Southern or Thornbury	*S. Howard, R
HAMPSHIRE, exclusive of Isle of Wight (five divisions):—	
North'n or Basingstoke	*Rt. Hon. G. Sclater-Booth, C
Western or Andover	*W. W. B. Beach, C
Eastern or Petersfield	Viscount Wolmer, R
Southern or Fareham	*Gen. Sir F. Fitzwygram, C
New Forest	*F. Compton, C
HEREFORDSHIRE (two divisions):—	
Northern or Leominster	*T. Duckham, R
Southern or Ross	*M. Biddulph, R
HERTFORDSHIRE (four divisions):—	
Northern or Hitchin	Baron Dimsdale, C
Eastern or Hertford	*A. Smith, C
Mid or St. Albans	Viscount Grimston, C
Western or Watford	*T. F. Halsey, C
HUNTINGDONSHIRE (two divisions):—	
Southern or Huntingdon	T. Coote, jun., R
Northern or Ramsey	*W. H. Fellowes, C
ISLE OF WIGHT (1)	*Sir R. E. Webster, Q.C., C
KENT (eight divisions):—	
Western or Sevenoaks	C. W. Mills, C
North-Western or Dartford	*Sir W. H. Dyke, C
South-Western or Tunbridge	R. Norton, C
Mid or Medway	*Hn. J. S. Gathorne-Hardy, C
North-Eastern or Faversham	H. Knatchbull-Hugessen, C
Southern or Ashford	W. P. Pomfret, C
Eastern or St. Augustine's	*A. Akers-Douglas, C
Isle of Thanet	*Col. E. R. King-Harman, C
LANCASHIRE (23 divisions):—	
NORTHERN.	
North Lonsdale	W. G. Ainslie, C
Lancaster	Major G. B. H. Marton, C
Blackpool	*Right Hon. Col. Stanley, C
Chorley	*Lieut.-Gen. R. J. Feilden, C
NORTH-EASTERN.	
Darwen	Viscount Cranborne, C
Clitheroe	Sir U. K. Shuttleworth, R
Accrington	*F. W. Grafton, R
Rossendale	*Marquis of Hartington, R
SOUTH-EASTERN.	
West Houghton	F. Hardcastle, C
Heywood	I. Hoyle, R
Middleton	Col. G. Salis-Schwabe, R
Radcliffe-cum-Farnworth	*R. Leake, R
Eccles	*Hon. A. F. Egerton, C
Stretford	*W. Agnew, R
Gorton	R. Peacock, R
Prestwich	A. Buckley, R
SOUTH-WEST.	
Southport	Dr. Pilkington, R
Ormskirk	A. B. Forwood, C
Bootle	T. M. Sandys, C
Widnes	T. C. Edwards-Moss, C
Newton	*Sir R. A. Cross, C
Ince	Colonel Blundell, C
Leigh	C. Wright, R
LEICESTERSHIRE (four divisions):—	
Eastern or Melton	*Lord J. Manners, C
Mid or Loughborough	J. E. Johnson Ferguson, R
Western or Bosworth	J. Ellis, R
Southern or Harborough	*T. T. Paget, R
LINCOLNSHIRE (seven divisions):—	
West Lindsey or Gainsborough	J. Bennett, R
North Lindsey or Brigg	Sir H. Meysey-Thompson, R
East Lindsey or Louth	F. Otter, R
South Lindsey or Horncastle	*Hon. E. Stanhope, C
North Kesteven or Sleaford	*H. Chaplin, C
South Kesteven or Stamford	*J. C. Lawrance, Q.C., C
Holland or Spalding	*Hon. M. Finch-Hatton, C
MIDDLESEX (seven divisions):—	
Enfield	*Viscount Folkestone, C
Tottenham	J. Howard, C
Hornsey	*Sir J. M. M'Garel-Hogg, C
Harrow	W. Ambrose, Q.C., C
Ealing	*Lord G. Hamilton, C
Brentwood	*O. E. Coope, C
Uxbridge	*F. D. Dixon-Hartland, C
MONMOUTHSHIRE (three divisions):—	
Northern	Captain T. P. Price, R
Western	C. M. Warmington, R
Southern	*Col. Hon. F. C. Morgan, C
NORFOLK (six divisions):—	
North-Western	J. Arch, R
South-Western	*W. A. Tyssen-Amherst, C
Northern	H. H. Cozens-Hardy, Q.C., R
Eastern	*E. Birkbeck, C
Mid	*R. T. Gurdon, R
Southern	F. Taylor, R
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (four divisions):—	
Northern	*Lord Burghley, C
Eastern	F. A. Channing, R
Mid	*Hon. C. R. Spencer, R
Southern	*Sir R. Knightley, C
NORTHUMBERLAND (four divisions):—	
Wansbeck	C. Fenwick, R
Tyneside	*A. Grey, R
Hexham	M. M'Innes, R
Berwick-upon-Tweed	Sir E. Grey, R
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (four divisions):—	
Bassetlaw	W. B. Denison, C
Newark	Lord Newark, C
Rushcliffe	J. E. Ellis, R
Mansfield	*C. G. S. Foljambe, R
OXFORDSHIRE (three divisions):—	
Northern or Banbury	*Sir B. Samuelson, R
Mid or Woodstock	F. W. Maclean, R
Southern or Henley	*Colonel E. W. Harcourt, C
RUTLANDSHIRE (1)	*G. H. Finch, C
SHROPSHIRE (four divisions):—	
Western or Oswestry	*S. Leighton, C
Northern or Newport	R. Bickerstoth, R
Mid or Wellington	*A. H. Brown, R
Southern or Ludlow	R. Jasper More, R
SOMERSETSHIRE (seven divisions):—	
Northern	E. H. Llewellyn, C
Wells	*Colonel Paget, C
Frome	L. T. Baker, R
Eastern	H. Hobhouse, R
Southern	Viscount Kilcoursie, R
Bridgwater	*E. J. Stanley, C
Western	*Sir T. D. Acland, R
STAFFORDSHIRE (seven divisions):—	
Leek	C. Compton, Q.C., R
Burton	*Sir M. A. Bass, R
Western	*H. Bass, R
North-Western	G. Leveson-Gower, R
Lichfield	Sir J. Swinburne, R
Kingswinford	*A. S. Hill, Q.C., C
Handsworth	*H. Wiggin, R
SUFFOLK (five divs.):—	
Northern or Lowestoft	Sir S. Crossley, R
North-Eastern or Eye	F. S. Stevenson, R
North-Western or Stowmarket	F. T. Cobbold, R
South or Sudbury	W. C. Quilter, R
South-Eastern or Woodbridge	R. L. Everett, R
SURREY (six divs.):—	
N.-Western or Chertsey	F. A. Hankey, C
S.-Western or Guildford	*Hon. W. St. J. F. Brodrick, C
S.-Eastern or Reigate	*Sir T. Lawrence, C
Mid or Epsom	*Right Hon. G. Cubitt, C
Kingston	*Sir J. W. Ellis, C
North-Eastern or Wimbledon	H. C. Bonsor, C

Constituencies.	Members.
SUSSEX	
(six divisions):—	
N.-Western or Horsham	*Sir W. Barttelot, C
South-Western or Chichester	*Earl of March, C
Northern or East Grinstead	*G. B. Gregory, C
Mid or Lewes	*Sir H. Fletcher, C
Southern or Eastbourne	Capt. Field, C
Eastern or Rye	Lieut.-Col. A. M. Brookfield, C
WARWICKSHIRE	
(four divisions):—	
Northern or Tamworth	*P. A. Munts, C
N.-Eastern or Nuneaton	J. W. Johns, R
South-Western or Stratford-on-Avon... ...	Lord W. Compton, R
South-Eastern or Rugby	H. B. Cobbe, R
WESTMORELAND	
(two divisions):—	
Northern or Appleby ...	*Hon. W. Lowther, C
Southern or Kendal ...	*Earl of Bective, C
WILTSHIRE	
(five divisions):—	
Northern or Cricklade	*N. S. Maskelyne, R
North-Western or Chippenham	B. Fletcher, R
Western or Westbury...	G. P. Fuller, R
Eastern or Devizes ...	*W. H. Long, C
Southern or Wilton ...	Sir T. F. Grove, R
WORCESTERSHIRE	
(five divisions):—	
Western or Bewdley ...	*Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, C
Southern or Evesham...	Sir R. Temple, C
Mid or Droitwich ...	*J. Corbett, R
Northern	B. Hingley, R
Eastern	*G. W. Hastings, R
YORKSHIRE	
(26 divisions):—	
North Riding.	
Thirsk and Malton ...	*Colonel Hon. L. Dawnay, C
Richmond	*Sir F. A. Milbank, R
Cleveland	H. F. Pease, R
Whitby	E. Denison, C
East Riding.	
Holderness	Commander Bethel, R.N., C
Buckrose	*C. Sykes, C
Howdenshire	A. Duncombe, C
West Riding (N. part).	
Skipton	*Sir Matthew Wilson, R
Keighley	*Isaac Holden, R
Shipley	J. Craven, R
Sowerby...	E. Crossley, R
Elland	Alderman T. Wayman, R
West Riding (S. part).	
Morley	C. Milnes Gaskell, R
Normanton	B. Pickard, R
Colne Valley	H. F. Beaumont, R
Holmfirth	H. G. Wilson, R
Barnsley	C. S. Kenny, R
Hallamshire	*F. T. Mappin, R
Rotherham	A. H. D. Acland, R
Doncaster	W. S. Shirley, R
West Riding (E. part).	
Ripon	W. Harker, R
Otley	*Sir Andrew Fairbairn, R
Barkston Ash	*Colonel Gunter, C
Osgoldcross	*Sir J. Ramsden, R
Pudsey	B. Priestly, R
Spen Valley	J. Woodhead, R

WALES (30 Members).

BOROUGHS.

CARDIFF (1)	*Sir E. J. Reed, R
CARMARTHEN DIS. (1)	*Sir J. Jones Jenkins, R
CARNARVON BORS. (1)	*T. L. D. Jones-Parry, R
DENBIGH DISTRICT (1)	Hon. G. T. Kenyon, C
FLINT DISTRICT (1) ...	*J. Roberts, R
MERTHYR TYDVIL (2)	*H. Richard, R
	*C. H. James, R
SWANSEA	
(two divisions):—	
Swansea Town	*L. L. Dillwyn, R
Swansea District ...	*Sir H. H. Vivian, R
MONTGOMERY DIS. (1)	Pryce Jones, C
PEMBROKE & HAVERFORDWEST (1) ...	*H. G. Allen, Q.C., R

COUNTIES.

ANGLESEA (1)	*R. Davies, R
BRECKNOCKSHIRE (1)	*W. F. Maitland, R
CARDIGANSHIRE (1)...	*D. Davies, R
CARMARTHENSHIRE	
(two divisions):—	
Eastern	D. Pugh, R
Western...	*W. R. H. Powell, R
CARNARVONSHIRE	
(two divisions):—	
Southern or Eivion ...	J. Roberts, R
Northern or Arvon ...	*W. Rathbone, R
DENBIGHSHIRE	
(two divisions):—	
Eastern	*Rt. Hon. G. O. Morgan, R
Western...	Major W. C. West, R
FLINTSHIRE (1) ...	*Lord R. Grosvenor, R
GLAMORGANSHIRE	
(five divisions):—	
Eastern	A. Thomas, R
Rhondda	W. Abrahams, R
Western or Gower ...	F. A. Yeo, R
Mid	*C. R. M. Talbot, R
Southern	A. J. Williams, R
MERIONETHSHIRE (1)	*H. Robertson, R
MONTGOMERYSH. (1)	*S. Rendel, R
PEMBROKESHIRE (1)...	*W. Davies, R
RADNORSHIRE (1) ...	Hon. A. H. J. Walsh, C

SCOTLAND (72 Members).

BOROUGHS.

ABERDEEN	
(two divisions):—	
North	Dr. W. A. Hunter, R
South	*J. Bryce, R
AYR DISTRICT (1) ...	*R. F. Campbell, R
DUMFRIES DIST. (1)...	*E. Noel, R
DUNDEE (2)	C. C. Lacaita, R
	E. Robertson, R
EDINBURGH	
(four divisions):—	
East	*Rt. Hon. G. J. Goschen, R
West	*T. R. Buchanan, R
Central	J. Wilson, R
South	Sir G. Harrison, R
ELGIN DISTRICT (1)...	*A. Asher, R
FALKIRK DISTRICT (1)	*J. Ramsay, R
GLASGOW	
(seven divisions):—	
Bridgeton	E. Russell, R
Camlachie	H. Watt, R
St. Rollox	J. M'Culloch, R
Central	G. Beith, R
College	*Dr. C. Cameron, R
Tradeston	A. C. Corbett, R
Blackfriars & Hutchesontown	*Mitchell Henry, R
GREENOCK (1)	*T. Sutherland, R
HAWICK BURGHS (1)	*Rt. Hon. G. O. Trevelyan, R
INVERNESS DIST. (1)	R. B. Finlay, Q.C., R
KILMARNOCK DIST. (1)	Provost Sturrock, C
KIRKCALDY DIST. (1)	*Sir G. Campbell, R
LEITH DISTRICT (1) ...	W. Jacks, R
MONTROSE DIST. (1)...	J. S. Will, Q.C., R
PAISLEY (1)	W. B. Barbour, R
PERTH (1)	*C. S. Parker, R
ST. ANDREW'S DIS. (1)	Sir R. Anstruther *S. Williamson, R
STIRLING DIST. (1) ...	*Right Hon. H. Campbell-Bannerman, R
WICK DISTRICT ...	J. Cameron, R

UNIVERSITIES.

EDINBURGH and ST. ANDREW'S	J. H. A. Macdonald, Q.C., C
GLASGOW and ABERDEEN	*J. A. Campbell, C

COUNTIES.

ABERDEENSHIRE, E.	P. Esemont, R
Ditto W.	*Dr. R. Farquharson, R
ARGYLLSHIRE (1) ...	*D. H. Macfarlane, R
AYRSHIRE, N. (1) ...	H. F. Elliott, R
Ditto S. (1) ...	E. Wason, R
BANFFSHIRE (1) ...	*R. W. Duff, R
BERWICKSHIRE (1) ...	*Hon. E. Marjoribanks, R
BUTESHIRE (1)... ...	J. P. B. Robertson, C
CAITHNESS-SHIRE (1)	Dr. G. B. Clark, R
CLACKMANNANSHIRE & KINROSS-SH. (1)	*J. B. Balfour, R
DUMBARTONSHIRE (1)	*A. Orr-Ewing, C
DUMFRIESSHIRE (1) ...	*R. Jardine, R
EDINBURGHSH. (MIDLOTHIAN) (1) ...	*Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, R
ELGIN & NAIRN (1) ...	*Sir G. M'P. Grant, R
FIFESHIRE	
(two divisions):—	
Eastern	J. B. Kinnear, R
Western	*Hon. R. P. Bruce, R
FORFARSHIRE (1) ...	*J. W. Barclay, R
HADDINGTONSH. (1)...	R. B. Haldane, R
INVERNESS-SHIRE (1)	*C. Fraser-Mackintosh, R
KINCARDINESHIRE (1)	*Sir G. Balfour, R
KIRCUDBRIGHTSH. (1)	M. J. Stewart, C
LANARKSHIRE	
(six divisions):—	
Govan	W. Pearce, C
Partick	*A. Craig-Sellar, R
North-Western... ...	J. Baird, C
North-Eastern	D. Crawford, R
Mid	S. Mason, R
Southern	*J. G. C. Hamilton, R
LINLITHGOWSH. (1) ...	*P. M'Lagan, R
ORKNEY and SHETLAND (1)	L. Lyell, R
PEEBLES & SELKIRK (1)	*C. Tennant, R
PERTHSHIRE	
(two divisions):—	
Eastern	R. S. Menzies, R
Western...	*Sir D. Currie, R
RENFREWSHIRE	
(two divisions):—	
East	J. Finlayson, R
West	Sir A. Campbell, C
ROSS & CROMARTY (1)	Dr. R. M'Donald, R
ROXBURGHSHIRE (1)	*Hon. A. R. D. Elliot, R
STIRLINGSHIRE (1) ...	*J. C. Bolton, R
SUTHERLANDSH. (1) ...	*Marquis of Stafford, R
WIGTOWNSHIRE ...	Sir H. E. Maxwell, C

IRELAND (103 Members).

BOROUGHS.

BELFAST (four divs):—	
East	E. S. W. de Cobain, C
North	*W. Ewart, C
South	W. Johnston, C
West	J. H. Haslett, C
CORK CITY (2)... ...	*C. S. Parnell, H R
	M. Healy, H R
DUBLIN CITY	
(four divisions):—	
College Green	*T. D. Sullivan, H R
Dublin Harbour ...	*T. Harrington, H R
St. Patrick's	W. Murphy, H R
St. Stephen's Green ...	*E. D. Gray, H R
GALWAY (1)	*T. P. O'Connor, H R
KILKENNY (1)	*J. F. Smithwick, H R
LIMERICK (1)	H. J. Gill, H R
LONDONDERRY CY. (1)	*C. E. Lewis, C
NEWRY (1)	*J. H. M'Carthy, H R
WATERFORD (1) ...	*R. Power, H R

UNIVERSITY.

DUBLIN (2)	*H. Holmes, Q.C., C
	*D. Plunket, C

COUNTIES.

ANTRIM (four divs.):—	
East	Captain M'Calmont, C
Mid	Hon. R. T. O'Neill, C
North	*E. Macnaghten, C
South	*J. W. E. Macartney, C
ARMAGH (three divs.):—	
Mid	J. M'Kane, C
North	Major Saunderson, C
South	A. Blane, H R
CAVAN (two divs.):—	
East	T. O'Hanlon, H R
West	*J. G. Biggar, H R
CARLOW (1)	*E. D. Gray, H R
CLARE (two divs.):—	
East	J. R. Cox, H R
West	J. Jordon, H R
CORK (seven divs.):—	
East	W. J. Lane, H R
Mid	C. Tanner, H R
North	J. C. Flynn, H R
North-East	*E. Leamy, H R
South	J. E. Kenny, H R
South-East	J. Hooper, H R
West	J. Gilhooly, H R
DONEGAL (four divs.):—	
East	*A. O'Connor, H R
North	J. E. O'Doherty, H R
South	B. Kelly, H R
West	J. O'Hea, H R
DOWN (four divisions):—	
East	*Captain Ker, C
North	Colonel Waring, C
South	*J. F. Small, H R
West	*Lord A. Hill, C
DUBLIN (two divs.):—	
North	J. J. Clancy, M.A., H R
South	Sir T. Esmonde, H R
FERMANAGH	
(two divisions):—	
North	*W. H. K. Redmond, H R
South	H. Campbell, H R
GALWAY (four divs.):—	
Connemara	P. J. Foley, H R
East	M. Harris, H R
North	*Colonel Nolan, H R
South	D. Sheehy, H R
KERRY (four divs.):—	
East	J. Sheehan, H R
North	J. Stack, H R
South	J. O'Connor, H R
West	E. Harrington, H R
KILDARE (two divs.):—	
North	J. L. Carew, H R
South	*J. Leahy, H R
KILKENNY	
(two divisions):—	
North	*E. M. Marum, H R
South	P. A. Chance, H R
KING'S COUNTY	
(two divisions):—	
Birr	*B. C. Molloy, H R
Tullamore	J. F. Fox, H R
LEITRIM (two divs.):—	
North	M. Conway, H R
South	L. Hayden, H R
LIMERICK (two divs.):—	
East	J. Finucane, H R
West	W. Abraham, H R
LONDONDERRY	
(two divisions):—	
North	H. L. Mulholland, C
South	*T. M. Healy, H R
LONGFORD	
(two divisions):—	
North	J. M'Carthy, H R
South	L. Connolly, H R
LOUTH (two divs.):—	
North	J. Nolan, H R
South	T. P. Gill, H R
MAYO (four divisions):—	
East	J. Dillon, H R
North	D. Crilly, H R
South	J. F. X. O'Brien, H R
West	*J. Deasy, H R
MEATH (two divs.):—	
North	K. I. O'Doherty, H R
South	*E. Sheil, H R
MONAGHAN	
(two divisions):—	
North	*T. M. Healy, H R
South	*Sir J. N. M'Kenna, H R
QUEEN'S COUNTY	
(two divisions):—	
Leix	*R. Lalor, H R
Ossory	*A. O'Connor, H R
ROSCOMMON	
(two divisions):—	
North	*J. J. Kelly, H R
South	*A. Commins, H R
SLIGO (two divisions):—	
North	P. M'Donald, H R
South	*T. Sexton, H R
TIPPERARY	
(four divisions):—	
East	T. J. Condon, H R
Mid	*T. Mayne, H R
North	P. J. O'Brien, H R
South	*J. O'Connor, H R
TYRONE (four divs.):—	
East	W. J. Reynolds, H R
Mid	*M. J. Kenny, H R
North	Lord E. Hamilton, C
South	*W. O'Brien, H R
WATERFORD	
(two divisions):—	
East	*P. J. Power, H R
West	J. D. Pyne, H R
WESTMEATH	
(two divisions):—	
North	J. Tuite, H R
South	D. Sullivan, H R
WEXFORD (two divs.):—	
North	*J. E. Redmond, H R
South	*J. Barry, H R
WICKLOW (two divs.):—	
East	*W. J. Corbet, H R
West	G. M. Byrne, H R

It will be observed that in the case of four members there have been double returns—namely, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. T. M. Healey, Mr. A. O'Connor, and Mr. E. D. Gray. The first-named gentleman has been elected for the Scotland Division of Liverpool and for Galway City, the second for North Monaghan and South Londonderry, the third for East Donegal and the Ossory Division of Queen's County, and the last for Carlow County and the St. Stephen's Green Division of Dublin City. In these cases, therefore, when the member-elect has chosen the constituency for which he intends to sit, new elections to fill the vacancies thus created must take place. In the St. Andrews District, the two candidates having received an equal number of votes, the decision as to which of them shall be the representative remains in abeyance.

Some time ago the surplus furniture of Hockliffe Grange, near Leighton Buzzard, the residence of the late Sir Richard Gilpin, who for many years was member of Parliament for Bedfordshire, was disposed of by public auction, and among the articles sold was an old iron-bound chest. The key had been lost for many years, and the chest had defied all attempts to open it. It was so heavy that it could not be shaken, and it was not known what it contained. At the sale it was purchased by a furniture dealer named Christopher Daniels, of Newport Pagnell, Bucks, who gave 25s. for it. As soon as Daniels got the box home he had it forced open by a blacksmith, when there was discovered inside it a quantity of old silver plate, and a large number of old deeds and other documents. He acquainted the auctioneers with this, and offered to sell the goods for £20. But the representatives of Sir Richard Gilpin claimed the contents, alleging that the contents were never intended to be sold, but only the chest itself. They consequently brought an action in the County Court for the recovery of the articles, and the case was tried before Judge Whigham, at Leighton Buzzard, on Friday. Mr. Cooper Wylde, barrister, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. C. M. Baker, barrister, for the defendant. His Honour held that it had not been the intention of the executors to part with the contents, whatever they might be, and ordered the defendant to pay to the plaintiffs £50, less 10s. the value of the chest.

Metropolitan Free Hospital.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending Dec. 19 was—medical 876, surgical 364; total 1,240, of which 394 were new cases.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The Chamber on Saturday by 282 votes to 205 annulled the elections for Landes. A pastoral by the Bishop of Aire, representing hailstorms and other visitations as retribution for anti-Catholic legislation, was the chief ground assigned for this decision. When the result was announced, a portion of the Right turned to the gallery in which the former Republican Deputy was sitting, and ironically shouted to him to come down and resume his old place. The five unseated Deputies exclaimed "We shall come back," and quitted the hall amid the cheers of their fellow Reactionaries.

A Yellow-book dealing with Chinese affairs has been distributed to the Chambers. It contains all the documents communicated by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the Tonquin Committee, the first in order bearing date April 23, 1884, and the last December 12, 1885. Most of the despatches refer to matters already known. A despatch of M. de Saint Chaffray, president of the French Delimitation Commission in Tonquin, reports that the Commission started on the 10th inst., and expected to reach Langson on the 20th inst. M. Cogordan, in a despatch from Shanghai on the 12th inst., announces that he saw Li Hung Chang the previous day, and then opened the negotiations for a Franco-Chinese Commercial Treaty. Li Hung Chang was to communicate shortly a detailed note, stating the views of the Chinese Government and its counter proposals in regard to the draft submitted by France.

The journal the *Monde* has reason to believe that the Comte de Paris, while maintaining the greatest reserve on political affairs, is personally opposed to all idea of abandoning Tonquin, and regrets that several of his friends should have pledged themselves to such a course.

The Chamber on Monday, after deciding to defer for a month the discussion of an interpellation of M. Dufour (Bonapartist) respecting some acts of official pressure in the Department of Lot during the late elections, proceeded to the debate upon the Tonquin credits. The discussion was opened by Mgr. Freppel, Bishop of Angers, who pronounced emphatically against the suggested evacuation of Tonquin. M. Delafosse (Right) followed with a speech in general condemnation of the expedition to Tonquin. M. Paul Bert next spoke against the evacuation, and the debate was afterwards adjourned until Tuesday when several speeches were made. M. de Freycinet afterwards stated that the Government of Madagascar had signed a treaty which established a French Protectorate over the island. A French Resident would be appointed at the capital, through whom all transactions with Foreign Powers would have to be conducted. The Malagasy would pay an indemnity of ten millions of francs, and the French would hold the port of Tamatave until it was paid.

ITALY.—The Chamber of Deputies on Saturday adjourned for the Christmas holidays. The closing sitting was marred by one of the stormiest scenes ever witnessed in Monte Citorio. The Minister of Public Instruction, Signor Coppino, having replied to the attacks made the previous Saturday on his new University regulations, a motion of censure was proposed by Signor Baccelli. Signor Coppino proposed that this motion should be discussed to-day; but it being evident that the House wanted to adjourn, the Prime Minister, Signor Depretis, proposed that a vote should be taken at once on a motion deferring the discussion of Signor Baccelli's motion for three months. This proposal exasperated the Opposition most unaccountably. Signor Baccelli, late Minister of Public Instruction in the Depretis Cabinet, and whose mistakes Signor Depretis long and generously defended, declared that his late chief was now plotting against Signor Coppino, as he had formerly done against him. The discussion waxed hotter and more personal until matters were brought to a head by Signor Micelli shouting at the Ministers, "Shame on you!" The public galleries were ordered to be cleared. As soon as order could be restored the debate was resumed, and after some more acrimonious discussion, the House adjourned on Signor Nicotera's motion, until the 18th January.

A *Times* correspondent writes from Naples, December 14:—"A few days since it was announced from the *New York Herald* that a storm was *en voyage* across the Atlantic which would affect the temperature of England and France. It was calculated to arrive between the 10th and 12th of December, and, as experience has taught us that the southern coasts of Italy are fellow-sufferers from such storms, all here were on the look out. On the 10th inst. a south-east wind was blowing and the sun was oppressively hot, but on the morning of the 11th all was changed. A heavy wind blew from the north-east, black clouds hung over Naples. Rain and sleet began to fall, followed by a regular snowstorm such as I have not seen for a long time. Small craft were laid up, as it was impossible to make any head against the fierce wind which was blowing, and even the steamers of the bay ceased to run. During the night there was a severe frost, and on the morning of the 12th and 13th inst. ice was brought in to me from vessels lying in an exposed position nearly an inch thick. The cold was, of course, bitter, and sharp taunts were uttered about the Sunny South, but this has been an extraordinary episode in the history of our weather, and a glorious sun is now again shining upon us. Naples has not been backward in rendering honours to the memory of the lamented Alfonso XII. On Saturday last a funeral mass was celebrated in the Church of San Giacomo, of the confraternity of which the late King was foremost member. Among those who were invited to be present were the Consular body and many of those connected by descent or social or commercial ties with Spain. I must not pass over the death of Cav. Michael Guiscardi without offering a brief tribute to the memory of one whose friendship I have long enjoyed. He was Professor of Geology in the University of Naples, and was much esteemed as a teacher. In the time of the Bourbons such a man was under a cloud, but another dynasty and another generation rendered him due honour. In 1868 I had the satisfaction of bringing about a meeting between him and the late Professor Phillips of Oxford, who thus speaks of him in the preface to his admirable work entitled *Vesuvius*—'During our stay in

Naples we benefited, as many English geologists and physicists are thankful to acknowledge, by the large geological knowledge and liberal communications of Professor Guiscardi.' The University was closed for two days to honour the memory of one who had deserved so well, and on Saturday his funeral took place. The *Roma* publishes a report from Palermo which reflects little honour on a member of our mercantile marine, and which represents in strong words the excitability of the Sicilians. Some days have passed since a brigantine under the English flag, commanded by Captain Crab, coasted along, evidently intending to enter the port of Palermo. On arriving nearer, those on the pilot board were informed that there was a grave case of malignant smallpox on board. The vessel had come from Messina, where fifteen or sixteen deaths a day had occurred from this malady. It had touched at Lirata and taken in sulphur for Lisbon. On the day after leaving one of the crew gave signs of smallpox and died, but this fact the captain did not communicate to the officers of the sanitary department. As soon as the matter was made known immense excitement was created among a people who had just emerged from the horrors of cholera. Guards, sanitary and police, and doctors were immediately sent down, as also *employés* in the Prefecture and the English Vice-Consul. The body of the deceased sailor was landed in the midst of a most excited population and taken off to be buried, and then precautionary measures were adopted. Those who had buried the body were sequestrated. Six fishing boats which had followed the brigantine were arrested, and the cable which had been used to fasten the brigantine to another boat was burnt and the brigantine was disinfected. The crews of the fishing boats before being put *in contumacio*, stated that the captain and his five sailors, as soon as the case of smallpox appeared, took refuge in the upper part of the vessel, leaving the sick man alone, without assistance of any kind, which certainly hastened his desperate death. The brigantine then left and was driven among the rocks of Mondillo, principally through the fault of the captain. It was there again visited by all the marine authorities and the English Vice-Consul, who has made a strict investigation of the conduct of the captain. At last the brigantine, the name of which I find it is impossible to interpret, returned to Messina, and the Palermitans were tranquillised."

AMERICA.—Mr. Shipley, the American Consul at Auckland, reports to the State Department the following facts about a new volcano in the Southern Pacific Ocean :—"At daylight on October 13 we observed dense volumes of steam and smoke clouds ascending. We sailed sufficiently near to see that it was a submarine volcanic eruption. Considering that it was not prudent to approach any nearer that night, we lay to until morning. We then approached to about a distance of two miles. I have not words to express my wonder and surprise at its changing splendour. Eruptions take place every one or two minutes, changing in appearance every second, like a dissolving view. I can only say that it was one of the most awfully grand sights I ever witnessed on the high seas. As near as I was able to calculate the position of the volcano, it is about fourteen miles from the island of Honga Tonga. As to the size of the island thrown up, I am unable to state it correctly, there being so much steam and clouds hanging over it ; but I judge it to be at least two or three miles long and 60ft. high, in latitude 20deg. 21sec. south, longitude 175deg. 28sec. west."

GERMANY.—The ninetieth birthday of Professor Leopold von Ranke, the eminent historian, was celebrated in Berlin on Monday at the nonagenarian's residence, the Crown Prince being among those who came to offer their congratulations. The Emperor sent a letter, accompanied by his portrait, and the Empress also forwarded a congratulatory letter. The Ministers congratulated the aged historian in a collective letter. After receiving the felicitations of the assembled company, Professor Ranke made a speech of some length, expressing warm acknowledgments of the numerous marks of honour extended to him.

DENMARK.—The official entry into Copenhagen of Prince Waldemar and the Princess Marie took place on Sunday. At noon they arrived at the principal railway station, where they were received by the Court, the military and the civil authorities, and the members of the Corps Diplomatique. The Mayor offered a welcome in the name of the capital. From the station to Amalienborg, two miles, the streets were lined with the members of the various corporations of the city. Flags were displayed in endless profusion all along the line of route. The young couple were seated in a richly-gilt State carriage and were lustily cheered by the population. Now and then they stopped to receive beautiful bouquets from the corporations. On reaching their new palace the King, the Queen, and the other members of the Royal family received them. At night the whole of the capital was illuminated.

POLAND.—Judgment has been delivered in the trial, which has been proceeding at Warsaw since the 27th ult., of the persons accused of belonging to the social revolutionary association styling itself "The Proletariate." Bardowsky, a justice of peace, Lury, a captain of engineers, and four other of the prisoners were sentenced to be hanged. Eighteen were condemned to sixteen years' hard labour in the mines, two to ten years and eight months' penal servitude, with exile for life to Siberia, and two others to transportation to Siberia for life.

BELGIUM.—The *Mouvement Géographique* states that Mr. Grenfell, an English missionary, and Lieutenant von François have just explored, in the steamer *Peace*, the large rivers Lulengo and Uruki, tributaries of the Upper Congo, on the left bank of that river. They report that both the Lulengo and the Uruki are navigable. The same journal publishes information stating that the Mobanji, a great affluent of the Congo, on the right bank of that river, flows from the east, and that its identity with the Welli is no longer doubtful.

PORTUGAL.—The funeral of the late King Ferdinand took place at Lisbon on Monday. The ceremony was witnessed by a large crowd, who appeared to sympathise warmly with the Royal Family. The coffin was followed to the grave by the English, Russian, Spanish, Belgian, Italian, and Brazilian Ministers. The service in the Church of the Panthéon was also attended by Vice-Admiral Fellowes, in command of the Channel Squadron, which is at present in the Tagus.

BULGARIA AND SERVIA.—The members of the Military Commission have viewed the Servian and Bulgarian positions near Pirot, accompanied by a Servian or Bulgarian representative according to the side they were visiting, but neither the Bulgarian nor Servian representative takes part in the deliberations of the Commissioners or crosses the lines. The Commission on Monday signed a protocol by which the Servians are to evacuate Bulgarian territory by December 25, and the Bulgarians to evacuate Pirot by December 27. The armistice is to continue until March 1. The Bulgarian and Servian delegates appended their signatures to the protocol.

CHINA.—It is reported that the Emperor intends to assume the government of the Empire in February. It is also said that at the same time he will marry. The Empress regent will thereupon retire into private life. The present Emperor of China was born on August 15, 1871, and is, therefore, only in his fifteenth year. On the 12th of January, 1876, he succeeded his cousin Tsai-shun, who himself, a boy, died without issue, the first instance in the Imperial House of Gioro for nearly three centuries. The accession of the little four-year old Tsai-tien involved (the *Standard* points out) some curious features of Chinese custom. It is a rule that the succession to the Dragon Throne cannot pass to the preceding generation, on account of the worship of ancestry. Such a succession would involve the worship of a lower or younger generation by an older one. The line of Hien-Fung, the last governing Emperor, died out in his childless son. The son of Prince Kung would, in the ordinary course, have been properly the heir, but the father could not remain in office when his son was on the Throne, and Prince Kung was till a year ago the most prominent Statesman in the country. Therefore the son of Prince Chun, a younger brother of the Emperor Hien-Fung and of Prince Kung, was unanimously chosen by the Empress Dowager and the assembled Princes of the Manchu Imperial clan. The same Regency was reappointed, so that his tender age involved neither difficulty nor alteration. He ascended the throne under the reign-name of Kwang-sü, or "Illustrious Succession," a reference to the break in the regular descent. Very little is known about the youth who announces his intention of assuming control of the largest and most populous Empire on the face of the earth. Stories of boyish petulance, and of his skill at archery, which still forms the most important point in the education of the ruling Manchu clans, have floated about, but there is really nothing on which to form an estimate of his character. He certainly has more "grit" than the feeble and nerveless boy whom he succeeded, but that is, pehaps, not what is most desirable in his position. As ruling Emperor he is the fountain of power, rank, honour, and privilege. He is the head of religion, as he is also the source of law and dispenser of mercy. All the forces and revenues of the Empire are his, and he has a right to claim the services of all males between 16 and 60. He will receive the Empire in a progressive and prosperous state, notwithstanding the late war with France. The Empress An, the Dowager Regent, who retires, is an exceedingly able woman, who has done more for China, in a remarkably critical time, than a score of Emperors before her. When Hien-Fung died, in 1861, the *prestige*, the resources, and the peace of the country were reduced to their lowest ebb. During the time that has passed since, China has not only regained peace, regular government, and material prosperity, but the Empire has entered into relations with European Powers, and has begun to take that part in the affairs of the world which must result in the opening up of the Middle Kingdom to International commerce. Under the Empress Dowager telegraph lines have been laid all over the country, and railways have been begun. If the young Kwang-sü follows in her footsteps, all will be well, and the world will be a gainer ; but if he goes back and relapses into the old Celestial exclusiveness, he will break up his vast Empire, and irretrievable ruin from internal rebellion and outside attacks will be the inevitable result.

EGYPT.—The statement that the Government has no intention of proceeding to Dongola, has, the Cairo correspondent of the *Times* says, caused considerable excitement. To understand this it is necessary to remember that no alternative is believed to be possible between advance and retreat. It is therefore interpreted to mean a retirement to Wady Halfa, and it has created a feeling akin to panic in all classes. The Bedouins near Old Cairo have recently been adopting a hostile attitude, and this is directly attributed by the English police officers to the belief in the stories of reverses at Koshay circulated by the *Bosphore Egyptien*. That these are actually untrue will gradually appear if we remain firm, but the slightest retrograde movements of our troops, even after victory, would produce a disaster here. This fact is openly admitted, not only by English officers, one of whom, with the rank of General, served in the Soudan with General Gordon, but if possible more emphatically by Abd-el-Kader Pasha, Minister for War, formerly Governor of the Soudan ; and it is worth taking into consideration whether Nubar Pasha and his colleagues would remain in office if the retrograde policy were persisted in. In a recent conversation Abd-el-Kader said :—"If you retire on Wady Halfa you must retire on Assouan ; and if on Assouan, then on Cairo. Every pace in advance gives you a hundred friends ; every pace in retiring gives you two hundred enemies—half in front, half in rear. You may gain victory after victory, but if they be followed by retreat you have uselessly wasted blood ; there is not one in ten who will not believe in your defeat. I say that a retirement from the position now taken is fatal. Two things are required—first, a fixed policy to crush rebellion ; secondly, money. Declare your intention to crush the rebellion. Of course it is more difficult to expect belief in your word now ; but if you act you will be believed. Attack the enemy in force, and after his defeat open negotiations. With native emissaries and money, you can detach the soldiers who are now the backbone of the rebellion, and also some tribes who are always jealous of each other." Being asked what sum was required, the Minister said, "Perhaps two millions ; but this policy is the cheapest in the long run."

The fact that the Dublin Fusiliers have been ordered to proceed to Assouan immediately on their arrival at Alexandria seems to indicate the initiation of more vigorous measures for dealing with the Arabs on the frontier, where fighting still continues. The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* is in a position to state that the opinion of the highest civil and military authorities is that the time has now come for a resolute forward movement. The prevalent impression is that unless it is decided to retake Dongola and in that way crush the rebellion, the gravest consequences are likely to ensue.

The enemy opened an artillery fire on the fort at Koshay on Sunday morning. The first shell entered an embrasure, striking the Gardner gun and wounding two men. Our artillery silenced them, destroying their embrasures. The enemy are reinforcing on the west bank and sending over provisions. Deserters report that during the sortie by the Cameron Highlanders on the 16th the enemy lost 100 men and five emirs. Persistent reports are received of the enemy's intention again to cut the railway. Our patrols have seen no signs of them. The Camel Corps, which patrolled the desert west of Wady Halfa for four days, reports no traces of any large bodies going north. Troops are being gradually massed at the front.

The following telegram from the General Officer Commanding in Egypt has been received at the War Office :—"December 19.—Regret to report death of Lieutenant Cameron, Cameron Highlanders, which occurred last night from wounds received on 16th. During the last three weeks Lieutenant Cameron had displayed exceptional qualities of courage and devotion to duty. Major Chalmers and ten sick and wounded arrived Firkeh this morning from Koshay. All doing well. Colonel Hunter's state unchanged. Major Huleatt slightly better."

Sir William White has sent a short Note to the Porte, reviewing the repeated postponements of Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha's departure for Egypt. The British Representotive does not, however, ask for explanation nor make the Porte responsible for this delay in the despatch of the Turkish Commissioner, but only expresses his regret that it should have occurred. Said Pasha requested Sir William White to withdraw this Note, which he refused to do. The Porte has not yet replied, and it is believed that the British Representative will send another Note of a more pressing nature.

In political circles in Constantinople nothing whatever is known of the true cause of the delay in Mukhtar Pasha's departure, and it is thought that if he does not leave soon England will follow an independent policy in Egypt.

BURMAH.—Shoaygyeen town was attacked on the 19th inst. by 500 dacoits, who were repulsed with loss —losing eighty men, killed, wounded, and prisoners. We only lost one man. An attack on a small body of Sepoys, holding the eastern mouth of the Pegu-Sittang Canal, was also repulsed.

Colonel Plant, Commissioner for Tenasserim, has despatched a column from Moulmein to attack the insurgents in the rear, and recapture Belin and Teyeketo. General Buck, at Shoaygyeen, has assumed the offensive with the Tounguo column. A force under Commissioner Ireland and Colonel Vanderzee is advancing from Pegu. Reinforcements, consisting of Royal Scots Fusiliers, Bombay Grenadiers, and some blue-jackets, have been sent to the Pegu district.

A large force of dacoits has attacked the Kyike police-station, which was defended by Mr. Shaw, assistant-commissioner, and Mr. Sladden, police-inspector, very courageously. On the sound of the enemy's gongs and drums their twenty Burmese policemen bolted, leaving with them twenty Sikhs and natives of India, with whom they defended the station for three days and nights, repulsing numerous attacks. When the ammunition was exhausted they brought off their men safely by a long night march.

The progress of the insurrectionary movement has now been checked.

News has been received from the Government agent at Munipoor confirming the report, previously sent from Upper Burmah, that Messrs. Allen, Moncure, and Roberts had been murdered in cold blood. The other missing Europeans were alive on Dec. 14, when they wrote. They owed their lives to the protection of the local Burmese officials, who will be handsomely rewarded.

The British flotilla containing the expeditionary force for Bhamo left Mandalay, according to intelligence which has reached London, on Saturday morning, the *Ananda*, with the survey party under Commander Carpenter, acting as pilot vessel. Five steamers with flats followed, containing the Naval Brigade under Captain Woodward, the headquarters staff, a detachment of mounted infantry, a wing of the Madras Infantry, and a battery of artillery. Mr. Bernard, Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, will remain in Mandalay to administer the country in the Queen's name until he receives definite instructions from the Government as to the policy it is intended to pursue.

Lord Guilford expired at his residence, Sydling Court, near Dorchester, shortly before ten o'clock on Saturday night, from the terrible injuries he received in consequence of a fall in the hunting field on Friday. The deceased Lord had held the mastership of the Cattistock Hounds since 1882. His remains will be interred at Waldershare, near Dover. The principal estates of the family of Guilford are around Dover, and great sympathy is felt throughout the district at his untimely end. The deceased, the seventh Earl of Guilford, was born at Weavering, Kent, in 1851, and succeeded to the title in 1861. In 1874 he married Georgiana, second daughter of Sir George Chetwynd.

Painted windows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

IRELAND.

The health of the Archbishop of Armagh is rapidly declining. The following bulletin was issued at the palace on Monday night :—"Within the past few days his Grace has become very weak, and is now in a very precarious condition."

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland have issued an address, in which they say that the little band of Parliamentary representatives which Irish loyalty has been able to organise will find itself in a position of unprecedented difficulty, being greatly outnumbered by the delegates of the National League :—

"A small but firmly united party, its members will have to rely upon their own energy and determination to convince their English fellow-countrymen that they are nevertheless representative of the industry and intelligence of Ireland, and that the truest interests of the Empire at large, no less than our own, are involved in the continuance of the existing connection between the British Islands. The Parnellite faction, if the immediate severance of this connection should seem impracticable, will, no doubt, attempt to bring that result about by degrees, and already they have indicated the first points to which they will direct their attention. The complete control of the education of the young to which they aspire would make them the dictators of the opinions of the rising generation in three-fourths of the country, and the command of the police which they claim would make them masters of the present one. With that disciplined and well-organised force in Mr. Parnell's hands, officered as it would soon be by his nominees, carefully weeded, as was the Royal army in 1687, of its Protestant members, we should find ourselves in a worse position than our ancestors were in under the rule of Tyrconnel. The relaxation in any degree, however slight, of the ties which connect us with England must lead to ultimate separation, to the ruin of this country, and to the establishment at the most vulnerable point of the Empire of a drill-ground for hostile armies and a dockyard for foreign fleets. We therefore appeal to those who, though hitherto differing from us, now realise the imminent peril which in common confronts us all, to stand shoulder to shoulder with us in defence of the Union, and to advance the cause of loyalty, liberty, and religion."

An address to the "Loyal Irishmen of Great Britain and Ireland" has been issued by the Loyal Irish Union of Great Britain and Ireland. The address concludes :—

"Our programme is intended to unite men of all parties and opinions, men who wish for the real interest of Ireland, and its thorough and loyal union with the rest of the British Empire.

"It may be summed up as follows :—

"1. The establishment of local self-government in Ireland on a broad and equitable basis.

"2. The representation of Ireland in Parliament by a secretary and under-secretary, chosen from Irish members.

"3. The establishment of denominational universities and schools partly supported by Government grants.

"4. The establishment of a permanent Viceroy in the person of one of the Royal family and a viceregal residence.

"5. The encouragement of Irish industries by

"(A) Allotting a fair share of Government work.

"(B) By the encouragement and protection of the fisheries and the making of harbours of refuge and the improvement of ports.

"(C) The judicious assistance, by loans, of railways, tramways, drainage, and other public works calculated to benefit the country."

A "Subscriber" to the *Dublin Express* writes that in the Clogher Valley various estates have, independently of their owners, been sold by the National League. On receipt of the money from the purchasers vouchers are issued, which at the proper time will enable them to enter upon their "properties" without further trouble. A peasant told the writer that doubtless his land had been sold, and, in a friendly way, said it would be waste of money to continue to improve it. These "ready-money transactions" and other considerations have induced an indisposition to pay rent.

The executive of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union have prepared a detailed statement, giving the figures with regard to the votes cast for the Parnellites and Unionists, at the recent elections, together with the total electorate of the seventy-eight constituencies, in which there were contested elections. The following is an analysis :—Ulster—total number of electors, 220,948. Votes recorded—Separatists, 68,250; Unionists, 114,705; absentees, 37,993. Munster, Leinster, and Connaught, total number of electors, 364,767. Votes recorded—Separatists, 227,019; Unionists, 30,380; absentees, 107,368. Total number of electors, 585,715—Separatist votes, 295,269; Unionists votes, 145,085 ; absentees, 145,361. It will be seen from the above figures that the entire number of the Parnellite votes is only 2,410 in excess of one-half of the total electors in the contested constituencies. In other words, that when the Unionist voters are added to the enormous number of absentees Mr. Parnell's nominees have only a majority of 4,823. It is understood that the organisation of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union will be continued, and that in the future Ulster will be brought within the scope of its operations. Arrangements are being made for the establishing of a network of branches of the union throughout the four provinces, and for the proper organising of all loyalist efforts from a direct centre in Dublin. Meetings of the members of the association will be held in Dublin and London at the commencement of the new year, when details will be supplied regarding the income and expenditure since the union was formed. It is understood that forty-eight candidates were subsidised by the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union at the recent elections.

The anniversary of the shutting of the gates of Derry on Friday derived more than usual interest from the prominence now given to the subject of Home Rule, and the Dean of Clonfert, who preached the commemoration sermon, took occasion to offer some excellent advice. He said,—"In Ireland the Democratic movement of the present day has given to the demand for Home Rule a commanding strength threatening to involve us in many trials, and for these it is well that we should be prepared. We have just given our voice in reference

to it, each one according to his conscientious judgment, and we are ready to give it again, and having done so we leave the question in other hands. But we cannot help looking forward and considering our position in the case of the demand being agreed to. In that case, we may anticipate much to try our principles, but we need not anticipate civil wars until—which God forbid—the awful necessicy arises. We have no reaaon to attribute to the majority in this country any desire to press the minority so as to excite civil war. For them to do so, with the power of England at hand to help the minority in whom her honour is involved, and the Queen's troops actually garrisoning the country, would apparently be a blunder too gross to de committed by one of the shrewdest and most quick-witted of European races. We Protestants, however, must be united. In drawing together we must not not withdraw ourselves from our fellow-countrymen. If Ireland is to make laws for herself and manage her own affairs, Ireland will, so far as those affairs are concerned, be the State of which we shall be citizens. It will claim our patriotism, and our best efforts should be given to promote the welfare of the Irish people. Into the new civil system we shall then enter without fear, determined to hold our own so far as peaceful effort or justifiable resistance may enable us to do so. And if disaster should come, if divided policy should weaken the force of these islands and relax the grasp of the Imperial sceptre which they hold for the good of the world, or if in this island passion and faction should bring in anarchy and bloodshed, we shall draw together ready to lay down our lives for the strength of the Empire and the restoration of order in our native land."

A report from Rathkeale states that another outrage has been committed in that district. The house of a farmer named Torpy has been attacked by a party of men, who beat him in a brutal manner. The police have been unable to ascertain the circumstances so far from the injured man, as Torpy has not yet regained consciousness.

About seven o'clock on Sunday evening about sixty tons of hay belonging to Mr. Marcus Keane, J.P. of Beech Park, was set on fire and consumed. The police have arrested a young man named Slattery, son of a workman in Mr. Keane's employ, on suspicion that the act of incendiarism was committed by him. A six-ton rick of hay, belonging to Mr. James Lynch, Kilcolean, was also destroyed by an incendiary fire the same evening.

While a farmer named John Greenlea was returning from Armagh on Monday night to his residence at Market-hill, near Newry, he was attacked and stabbed in a brutal manner. There were no fewer than nine wounds on his head and a very fearful scar on his cheek, his nose being also nearly severed from his face.

The County Limerick Foxhounds were prevented from hunting on Tuesday. They met at Fedamore, and a large crowd of farmers and labourers assembled and objected because two land agents were present. The master refused to turn away the agents and took the hounds home, stating that hunting would be stopped altogether.

Timothy Casey and Daniel Daly have, at the Munster Assizes, been found guilty of having last month formed portion of a disguised band who assembled at night with rifles and revolvers, and attacked and forcibly entered the dwelling of John O'Connell Curtin, Castle Farm, Kerry. It will be recollected in connection with this outrage that Mr. Curtin and one of the Moonlighters were killed. The two prisoners were brought to justice through the bravery displayed by Mr. Curtin's sons and daughters. They were each sentenced to fourteen years' penal servitude, Mr. Justice O'Brien intimating that it was owing alone to the clemency of the Crown that they were not tried for murder.

Mr. T. D. Sullivan, M.P., presiding at the National League meeting in Dublin on Tuesday, accepted as a cheering fact the report, which he believed was substantially correct, that Mr. Gladstone had determined, as soon as opportunity was afforded him, to settle the Home Rule question. He added that in the face of Lord Salisbury's plan of County Boards, which would, he presumed, have the control of the police, the objections to Mr. Gladstone's scheme vanished. On the part of the League, he repudiated all ideas of confiscation, or any intention to oppress the Protestant minority.

A petition has been lodged against the return of Mr. Harry Bullard, the Conservative candidate for Norwich. The allegations are conveyance of voters, treating, bribery, illegal employment, and illegal payments.

The subjoined Episcopal manifesto by the Bishop of Ossory against mixed marriages was lately displayed on the door of the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Kilkenny :—

"My dear Brethren,—We have been very much pained to learn within the past month that marriages between Catholics and non-Catholics have increased very much in this city of Kilkenny.

"Many evil-disposed persons, utterly unmindful of the prohibitions of the Church and regardless of the dreadful consequences they bring on themselves, have not hesitated to enter into those unholy matrimonial alliances called 'mixed marriages,' which the Catholic Church has always hated and detested. Those misguided Catholics, who do not deserve the name, have not blushed to go, in some instances, before the Protestant minister, in other instances, before the public registrar, to ask them to assist at their marriage with a Protestant. By contracting marriage in this way they run a great risk of bringing on themselves and on their children, should they have any, the maledictions of Heaven, instead of the blessings of religion. In order to put a stop to this growing abuse and to prevent it from spreading like a contagion to other parts of the diocese, we beg to remind the faithful of certain regulations which, for the future, shall have force in the diocese of Ossory in reference to the Catholics who so far forget themselves as to contract such marriages.

"1. In the first place, any one who contracts a 'mixed marriage' without a dispensation from the Holy See and before a Protestant minister or a Registrar is, by the very fact, guilty of a most grievous mortal sin by violating a solemn law of the Church in a most grave matter.

"2. The Catholic who assists as witness at such marriage also commits a most grievous sin by co-operating in an unlawful act.

"3. Both the Catholic party contracting the marriage and the Catholic witnesses to it cannot be absolved by any priest in the diocese of Ossory, unless by the Bishop or by those to whom he grants special faculties.

"4. In order more effectually to deter people from entering into those detestable marriages, the penalty of excommunication is hereby attached to that sin both for the Catholic contracting party as also for the Catholic witnesses to such marriage.

"5. The notice which the Protestant rector or the Registrar is legally bound in such case to send to the parish priest of the Catholic party will be read from the altar for three consecutive Sundays, and thus the crime of the offending party brought out into open light before his or her fellow-parishioners.

"6. For the rest, we hope the sense of decency and religion of the Catholic people and their pastors shall be no more hurt by any Catholic entering into those marriages, so full of misery and evil of every kind for themselves, their children, and society at large.

"Yours faithfully in Christ,

"✠ Abraham, Bishop of Ossory."

The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, without, however, remarking that it was necessary at the present time, asserts that in "the Primer of Edward VI." there is a special prayer for Landlords, of which the following is a copy :—"The earth is Thine, O Lord, and all that is contained therein, notwithstanding that Thou hast given the possession thereof unto the children of men to pass over the time of their short pilgrimage in this vale of misery. We heartily pray Thee to send Thy Holy spirit into the hearts of them that possess the grounds, pastures, and dwelling places of the earth, that they, remembering themselves to be Thy tenants, may not rack and stretch out the rents of their houses and lands, nor yet take unreasonable fines and incomes after the manner of covetous worldlings, but so let them out to other, that the inhabitants thereof may both be able to pay the rents, and also honestly to live, to nourish their families, and to relieve the poor; give them grace also to consider that they are but strangers and pilgrims in this world, having here no dwelling place, but seeking one to come, that they, remembering the short continuance of their life, may be content with that that is sufficient, and not join house to house, nor couple land to land, to the impoverishment of other, but so behave themselves in letting out their tenements, lands, and pastures, that after this life they may be received into everlasting dwelling places: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Mr. Henry Graham, at present one of the Masters in Lunacy, to the post of Clerk of Parliaments, vacant by the death of Sir W. Rose, K.C.B.

The Queen has been pleased to confer the distinction of K.C.B. (Civil Division) upon Dr. G. E. Paget, Regicus Professor of Physic in the University of Cambridge.

The Queen has been pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Dr. William Roberts of the Victoria University, Manchester.

The Marquis of Hartington has addressed the following letter to Mr. Thomas Brooks, the chairman of his election committee in the Rossendale Division of Lancashire :—

"*Devonshire House, Piccadilly, W., December* 19.

"Dear Mr. Brooks,—My name has recently been frequently mentioned in connection with reports on the subject of a scheme of Irish policy, which is stated to have been under the consideration of the leaders of the Liberal party. I shall not within the next few weeks have an opportunity of addressing my constituents in public, and I think that the respect which I owe to them justifies me in writing to you, as the chairman of my election committee, for the purpose of giving the most emphatic contradiction to all such reports, so far as they relate to myself. No proposals on the policy to be adopted by the Liberal party in reference to the demand of a large number of Irish members for the legislative independence of Ireland have been communicated to me, and I see no reason to depart in any degree from the declarations which I have made or the opinions which I have expressed in my speeches during the late election, in Lancashire and elsewhere, on the policy announced by Mr. Parnell as the leader of the Irish Parliamentary party.

"I remain, yours truly,

"Hartington."

The Press Association received on Saturday the following communication from Hawarden :—

"If Mr. Gladstone should at any time have any plan or intention to announce on the question of Irish Government, it will be done publicly on his own responsibility, and not by anonymous and irresponsible declaration. Political friends are assured that he remembers his obligations to them, and may safely understand that he is bound to none of the ideas announced in his name. After saying this, Mr. Gladstone would hold himself excused from replying, in the present state of facts, to any further inquiries, rumours, or suggestions."

The Earl of Derby, writing to the Central News, says :—

"The scheme of Home Rule attributed to Mr. Gladstone has been materially modified by subsequent statements from the right hon. gentlemen disclaiming the plan alleged to have been put forward by him. Lord Derby, therefore, thinks it is obvious that it would not in any case be possible for him to express his opinion of a scheme of which at the time of writing he had only seen a telegraphic summary."

Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P., writing from Torquay under date December 18, says that had he been well enough to see at the time the telegraphic summary of the scheme of Home Rule attributed to Mr. Gladstone he would have stated that he was not prepared to give an opinion on such an unauthorised statement of Mr. Gladstone's opinion. Mr. Forster adds that he does not think that at present he would be inclined to express his views upon the Irish question.

Mr. Forster, writing three days later, says :—

"To prevent misconstruction, I wish to say that I do not believe that in Home Rule or in any form of Irish Parliament we should find a deliverance from the Irish difficulty, and I also think that they would be fraught with danger to Great Britain as well as to Ireland itself."

The following letter has been received from Mr. Gladstone by Mr. Edward Heneage :—

"*Hawarden Castle, Chester, December* 14.

"Dear Mr. Heneage,—I thank you and Lincolnshire for your exertions in a good cause which has been crowned with much, though not with all, success. I think it probable that the bigness and urgency of the Irish question may bring it to issue quickly. Most thankful shall I be if this Government will undertake to deal with it; and being thus a full or fair half of the House, they may relieve us from the constitutional difficulty of being ruled by a minority. If they will bring in a safe and adequate measure they will have my support.

"I fear until this subject is disposed of no real progress will be made with any others.

"Most faithfully yours,

"W. E. Gladstone."

Mr. Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., presided on Friday night at the eighteenth annual meeting of the Rotherhithe Conservative Association. Enlarging upon the general political situation, the Chairman said within forty-eight hours a question which cut across all the lines of political relations had been brought into sudden and remarkable prominence. They had had an announcement—the truth of which was practically acknowledged by the pretended refutation which was made on Thursday afternoon—that one of the leaders of political parties was prepared to enter into a conference and compact with Mr. Parnell and his followers, and was prepared to grant Home Rule, in the shape of a Parliament for Ireland. The mode of that announcement had been a singular one, and he supposed that it was due to the constitutional incapacity of Mr. Gladstone for straightforwardness, either in word or action. He imagined that the reason why the revelation had been made in so mysterious a fashion was that no one would ever be able to fasten upon Mr. Gladstone the responsibility of anything at all except a telegram which no one could understand. But if, as he was afraid was the case, this announcement was to be considered as an authentic representating of Mr. Gladstone's views, then he could only say a more gross and palpable dishonesty was never worked upon the English people. If the announcement in those terms had been made in the country four weeks ago, instead of the Liberals coming back to Parliament with 333 representatives, the Conservatives would have had such a majority as would have lifted this country beyond the reach of the designs of those who were aiming against its institutions. Now the elections were over, and it became not a question of working the constituencies, but a question of manipulating the influences which were to be found within the walls of the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone came forward with a proposal which he did not dare make to the country. They might speculate as to the political results, but nothing could be certainly known until they could ascertain how many of Mr. Gladstone's colleagues, whether belonging to the Liberal or the Radical section, were prepared to accompany him in this matter. Lord Hartington had already pronounced against proposals "fatal and mischievous to the integrity of the Empire." It was too early to discuss the details of the proposals shadowed forth, but in his opinion if they gave a Parliament to Ireland, and at the same time Irish members in their present numbers were to be allowed to attend the Parliament in London, and to hold the balance—as they would hold, probably, for years to come—between the conflicting English parties, it would be difficult to say which country to pity most. A Parliament in Ireland amounted to the transfer to that country of hostilities which would become more active than they had ever yet been, and the result would be that, during years of conflict within the walls of Parliament, capital would be making its escape from the country where capital and industry would be alike unsafe, and in the end of that conflict we should reconquer an impoverished and ruined Ireland. He quoted Mr. Chamberlain, who said that the Liberal party must have "a majority large enough to render it altogetner independent of the cynical offer which Mr. Parnell had made co any statesman who was willing to betray the interests of his country." Mr. Chamberlain gave a prophetic description of the statesman who had given an account to the world of what he was willing to do.

At a banquet at which some six hundred persons were present at Rosherville, on Monday evening, in honour of Mr. J. Bazley White's return as member for the borough, Baron Henry de Worms, M.P., in response to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers," said that at no period of England's history had the Ministry stood more in need of the confidence of the people than at the present moment. He might also say, he believed, without fear of contradiction, that at no period of our history had a Ministry taken up the reins of office under greater difficulties. The Conservatives had been taunted with being merely caretakers, but he did not think those who applied that word knew how it might have been applied to themselves. They were caretakers, perhaps, in one sense of the word—not that they cared for the State, but that they filled the place which ought to have been filled by better men. They certainly did not take care of the State in the sense in which we understood the words in English; but in the month of June this year, when difficulties beset them on all sides—difficulties the result of their misgovernment—they thought the best and most dignified course for them to take was to run away. He had no hesitation in saying that course was the best that could be adopted, although he could not say the most patriotic or most dignified. What was the position, however, they now pretended to assume? They said that the result of this eleccion was clearly a proof that a Liberal reaction had once more set in in the country, but he denied that entirely (hear hear. In an article which Mr. Chamberlain wrote he said intelligence was found to be in the manufacturing centres of this country; but those great centres had declared their support in favour of the Conservative Government, and he (Baron Henry) did not for one moment believe that the voice of the new constituents would in any way have differed from that of those who lived in towns had it not been that they were misled and bribed. Mr. Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., in responding to "The Houses of Parliament," referred to the recent statements which had been made by Mr. Gladstone, concerning Home Rule for Ireland, and in alluding to the legislation of the country generally, said he should be quite willing to assist the Liberals in any measures that might be brought forward in the manner that he hoped support would be accorded to the Conservatives. He believed it would be a serious misfortune for the country if at this moment Lord Salisbury was to be removed from the position of Foreign Minister.

Sir Charles Dilke, speaking on Friday at a meeting of the council of the Chelsea Liberal Association, remarked that in thanking those who had worked for the Liberal party in Chelsea at the last election, it was impossible to refrain from expressing the opinion that the majority was not so large as it ought to have been. He thought he might add that they all intended it should be much larger next time. The chief causes of the small majority were over-confidence and want of canvassing, canvassing being put off to the very last, as some of their friends thought it was unnecessary. The result was that their opponents anticipated them over the whole borough, and that would not occur again. The majority, small though it was, was won after a hard fight, and, as he thought, a harder fight than they were ever likely to have again in Chelsea. At all events, hard fight or no hard fight, he was with them for that fight. In 1873 he pledged himself that so long as his native borough choose to return him he should never think of leaving them, his feeling being that as he was born there he would like to spend his political life there, unless the inhabitants desired to dismiss him from their service. At the recent contest they put before the electors a programme which had become pretty familiar, but in London one subject was added to which they and he attached the highest possible importance—the reform of the City guilds. Up to a certain point the Conservatives expressed their willingness to take the main points of the programme, such as local government reform, procedure reform, and the reform of the registration laws. He did not think their land reform was likely to go very far, but City guild reform they would not have at any price. He saw it stated that day in a Conservative newspaper that he was puzzled and perplexed because the London working classes had not cordially adopted the programme of plunder, of spoliation, and of taking the property of others, which he had put before them, by which, of course, was meant his views on the City guilds. He wondered how long they would have to go on laboriously proving to those gentlemen that the opinion which he and others who thought with him entertained upon the subject was endorsed, not by the Liberal party only, certainly not by the Radical party only, but by all moderate and reasonable people who had studied the question for themselves. The best informed of non-interested people, whether Liberals or Conservatives, who had looked at the matter from the point of view of the public interest and of strict law, had all come to the same conclusion. He did not know whether the gentlemen who wrote about spoliation and plunder, and all that sort of thing, really persuaded themselves that the flower of the working classes in London held their views with regard to the City guilds; because if they did he would recommend them to come and talk with some of the working men of Chelsea. If by the phrase "working classes" those gentlemen meant the labouring classes of the metropolis who were below the rank of the skilled artisan, he would at once confess that they voted on the Conservative side at the late election. It was, however, the duty of those who believed in Liberalism to work among those men until the unskilled among the labouring classes of London became convinced that neither their personal interest nor the public interest lay on the side of Conservatism. As to the City guilds, he was convinced there was not a man in that room who believed in the principle of plunder. Their views were founded upon both morality and legality; they had the principle and the letter of the law equally on their side; and the position which they had taken up was justified by all the evidence collected by the high and impartial Commission which had investigated the question. It was their sacred duty to the inhabitants of London to put forward the principles which they held on this subject, and they would be guilty of the grossest disregard of public duty if they allowed the large funds which were the property of the people of the metropolis to be monopolised by the individuals who now enjoyed them. He did not know that they were entirely choosers as to whether a weak Tory Government should remain in office or not. Such a Government might be tolerated on sufferance, but to suppose that Liberals could declare confidence in it surpassed the bounds of imagination. Their confidence was not so much in any body of men as in principles. If they were asked to express confidence in any particular body of men they should express confidence, he believed, in their own chiefs, in their own leader—but they certainly would not express confidence in the leader of the other party in the State. He repeated that first and foremost their confidence was in the principles, and that confidence they should never cease to express, whatever persons might guide the affairs of the State.

Mr. John Morley, M.P., addressed a meeting at Newcastle on Monday evening. He said there was talk of the Government soliciting a vote of confidence when Parliament met; he, at any rate, was not sent to the House of Commous to say that he had any confidence in Lord Salisbury. He dwelt on the question of Home Rule for Ireland, likening the indignation which was now heard concerning Mr. Gladstone's attitude on the subject to the simulated fury of actors on the stage. They had now to face the Irish difficulty manfully. If they wanted to create in the Irish a fitness for self-government they must first teach them responsibility, and that could not be done without giving them power. The problem was how to do that safely, and he believed a solution would be found.

Eton College closed on Friday for the Christmas vacation, which lasts till January 20, when the lower boys return, the fifth and sixth forms reassembling at the College on the two following days.

KING THEBAW.

The *Times* correspondent at Rangoon has furnished a very interesting account of the above-named potentate. From his lengthy communication, written before the King's deposition, we make the following extracts :—

Thebaw Min, the King of Upper Burmah, or, as it is more frequently styled in official correspondence, the Kingdom of Ava, is a many-titled monarch. His Royal style and title, as fully written in official documents, runs thus :—"His Most Great and Glorious Majesty, King of the Sea and Land, Lord of the Rising Sun, who rules over Sunnaparan, Zampodee-pa, and all the umbrella-bearing chiefs of the Eastern countries, Master of the Saddan (Celestial) King Elephant, Lord of many White Elephants, Lord of Gold, Silver, Rubies, and Amber, the Supporter of Religion, the Sun-descended Monarch, Sovereign of the Power of Life and Death, Arbiter of Existence and Great Chief of Righteousness, the Lord of the Golden Palace, King of Kings and Possessor of Boundless Dominions and Supreme Wisdom." The author of *The Burman; his Life and Notions*, by Shway Yoe, one of the most accurate observers of Burman life and character, who had special opportunities of becoming acquainted with Thebaw's character and career, describes the holder of these numerous and high-sounding titles as being a young man of very bad character, who killed his brothers and sisters, and who drinks gin, but who is very far from being a fool for all that. If the official chroniclers of the Court of Ava are to be relied on, King Thebaw's ancestry is even more ancient and illustrious than his titles are lofty and high-sounding, The Royal Book of Kings enumerates 587,000 kings as having followed each other in regular succession. More critical historians, however, do not carry his ilneage further back than to Alaungpra, who died in 1760, having founded the present dynasty. Before commencing his career of conquests, Alaungpra was a Myo-Thug-gi, or headman of a small village, and as the leader of a band of huntsmen was known as Mutsobo, or the Hunter Captain. In a few years Alaungpra had founded a great and populous empire. He carried his arms from the Siamese capital to Dacca, and from the Gulf of Martaban to Western China.

Thebaw, whose name is taken from a town in the Shan States, is the eleventh monarch of the dynasty of Alaungpra. He is not a pure-bred Burman, and there are the strongest reasons for doubting that he is really a descendant of Alaungpra. In July, 1869, when Thebaw was twelve years of age, he was placed under the charge of Dr. Marks, a well-known missionary, who had just opened a Society for the Propagation of the Gospel school at Mandalay. It was established by the desire of the late King, and was attended by nearly 300 pupils. There were at that time eight of Thebaw's brothers, all about the same age at Dr. Marks's school. Thebaw remained there until March, 1870, when he ceased to attend. Thebaw learnt to speak English tolerably and read it a little; but he has since forgotten whatever English he knew. In his school days Thebaw was fond of cricket, a game which of late years is largely played by the Burmans. He batted fairly well, but refused to do his share of fielding, and was in the habit of using very injurious language to any one who bowled him. Thebaw while at school is described as having been slow at his lessons, and a boy of sulky and morose temper. This may have been due to the way in which he was teased and bullied by his brothers, who constantly called him Pohngyethah, or the priest's son, a taunt which always greatly exasperated him. Thebaw went through school without being flogged, although on more than one occasion he narrowly escaped that punishment. On leaving school Thebaw entered one of the Royal monasteries as a neophyte. His studies were then more successful, and he took honours in Buddhist law and in other subjects. The morals of the "Future Supporter of Religion" were, however, then more than doubtful, and owing to his too-marked flirtations with various Burmese young ladies, including Soopayah-lat, his present Queen, he was severely flogged by the Kyoung-poh-goh, or Head of the Monastery where Thebaw was a neophyte. On Thebaw's accession the venerable ascetic who castigated him while he was a neophyte was placed in retirement.

Thebaw owes his seat on the throne to a Palace intrigue. The late King did not intend that he should succeed him, and had selected another of his sons, the Nyoung Yaun Prince, as his successor. When the late King died the Tynedah Mengyee, now one of the junior Prime Ministers, who, as Captain of the King's Guard, was in immediate control of the Palace, concealed the fact of the King's death for some days. In the interval, in conjunction with the Queen of the South, or chief Queen of the late King, he hatched a plot to place Thebaw on the throne. There were then at Mandalay nineteen Princes, sons of the late King, who had pretensions to succeed to the throne. The Princes were summoned to the Palace by a forged letter, purporting to be written by the dead King. On their arrival they were seized and imprisoned. Some of them who got timely notice escaped to the English residency at Mandalay, and obtained protection there. The King of Burmah always marries, at least one of his half-sisters, although such marriages are forbidden among his subjects. The late King had two daughters by his Chief Queen, the elder Selin Soopayah, sometimes spoken of by Europeans as Selina Sophia, and the younger the Soopayah-lat. In accordance with custom and to secure the purity of the Royal blood, Selen Soopayah, the eldest daughter of the King, was declared Ta-bin-deing, or forbidden to marry until the King's death. She was somewhat older than Thebaw, who was deeply enamoured of her. Her younger sister, Soopayah-lat, was known to be equally in love with Thebaw. It was arranged by their mother that Thebaw should marry both the Soopayah sisters. To the surprise of all, the elder sister, Selin Soopayah, objected to the arrangement, refused to marry Thebaw, and escaped to a monastery. She despised Thebaw as being the priest's son, and she also objected to her younger sister becoming Thebaw's wife if she was herself to marry him. The subsequent fate of Selin Soopayah is unknown. Her refusal to marry greatly enraged Thebaw, who relieved his feelings by causing the hands of two maids of honour supposed to be privy to Selin Soopayah's flight, to be chopped off. Thebaw married Soopayah-lat, the younger Princess, who became his chief Queen, or Queen of the South, and has remained his sole Queen. The Queen's name, Soopayah-lat, means "the most delightful Princess." An interesting account of a visit to Mandalay in 1880, by an English lady, Mrs. Rowett, the wife of one of the principal merchants at Rangoon, was published in *Fraser's Magazine* of May, 1882. Mrs. Rowett, who had a lengthened interview, under unusually favourable circumstances, with Soopayah-lat, thus described her :—"The Queen is only twenty-one years old. She is very nice looking, and unusually fair for a Burmese, and her expression is really good." Soopayah-lat is a woman of considerable mental powers. She openly despises her brother-husband, and is known to rule him, alike in matters social and political.

Within a few months of Thebaw's accession to the throne, a series of horrible massacres ensued at Mandalay. Seventy of the Princes and Princesses of the Royal blood, and many of their children, were murdered under circumstances of the most revolting atrocity. These massacres were undoubtedly instistigated by Soopayah-lat and her mother, and they with difficulty obtained Thebaw's consent to them. The most active agent in the massacres, who personally participated in them, was the Tynedah Mengyee, who since Thebaw's accession has been the most trusted adviser. The practice of massacring all possible rivals on the accession of a new monarch in Burmah has been of frequent occurrence. Many of Thebaw's subjects approve of his having murdered his relations, on the ground that it would insure peace and order and prevent civil war in the country, and he incurred no general unpopularity by this wholesale slaughter. What, however, degrades him in Burmese opinion, and what his subjects cannot forgive him, is the manner in which he allows himself to be bullied by Soopayay-lat and her mother. All previous Kings of Burmah have had four chief Queens—the Queens of the South, East, West, and North, the supremacy of the Queen of the south being recognised. Thebaw's predecessors by no means confined themselves to their four chief Queens. The late King Min-done-Min, who was a religious monarch, and who specially prided himself on the title of "Holder of the Fifth Ecclesiastical Synod," a title not borne by his successor, had fifty-three recognised Queens, besides a few score of inferior wives. Thirty-seven of his recognised Queens survived him. By his Queens he had 110 children, of whom seventy-two were alive at his death. Notwithstanding these precedents—and the Burmese are a very conservative people in social matters—Soopayah-lat has insisted on remaining Thebaw's sole wife. Various maids of honour, supposed to have been favoured by Thebaw, have been put to death by the Queen with every refinement of torture. Thebaw has recently married a second Queen, but she has to be constantly guarded by soldiers to save her from the vengeance of Soopayah-lat. This condition of affairs is regarded by the Burmans as being highly discreditable to the King. Thebaw has had but one son, who died of smallpox, and one daughter, who survives. His predecessor, Min-done-Min, averaged during his long reign about five children a year. When Thebaw ascended the throne he was described as being, although very dark, the handsomest young man in Burmah. He has now become bloated in appearance, possibly owing to his undue devotion to gin. On more than one occasion when he has received European visitors, he has appeared with his face extensively scratched. Owing to the manner in which the person of the "Sun-descended Monarch" is guarded, and the precautions taken in reference to him, there can be but little doubt that these injuries to the face of the "Supporter of Religion" were caused by the nails of Soopayah-lat.

In the course of an exceedingly instructive paper read by Mr. Holt S. Hallett last week before a large audience in the rooms of the Society of Arts on the subject of "Burmah, Present and Future," Mr. Hallett said that Upper Burmah and the Shan States, lying to the east of it, which were until lately under its control, should be of the greatest interest to us as a trading nation, for they were interposed between the two most populous empires in the world, India and China. In these days, with foreign competition getting keener every day, and hostile tariffs not only shutting the European markets against us, but in a lesser degree America and English colonies also, in the race for fresh colonies and new markets among the European Powers, it was of importance that we should avail ourselves of our present opportunity for an inland connection and commercial alliance with Indo-China and China, and thus acquire new markets of transcendent promise. Burmah and the Burmese Shan States were highly favoured by their geographical position. They lay in the course of the monsoons, and were gifted for the most part with a plentiful rainfall. Even in places where the rainfall was scarce the plains received a bountiful supply of water from the hill streams. The climate was humid and the forests and other vegetation were unsurpassed by that of any other region. Burmah was bounded on the north by the snow-clad hills of Southern Thibet; on the east by China, the Shan States tributary to China; on the west by Assam, Menipur, Chittagong, and the Indian Ocean; and on the south by the Indian Ocean and Siam. Mr. Hallett having glanced at the history of Burmah from the earliest times, and detailed the exceptionally rich natural products of the country, said that Mandalay had been the capital since 1857, but the capital had been frequently removed during the last half century. Mandalay was situated three and a half miles from the Irrawaddy, and was laid out in a square, on a site of about a mile. It was surrounded by a brick wall 20ft. high and 3ft. thick. The palace, arsenal, magazine, and mint were enclosed in an inner central square protected by a strong teak stockade, 20ft. high. The population was about 70,000, and the number of houses about 12,000. The inhabitants of Burmah, owing to the excellence of the climate were robust and healthy-looking. They attained the average length of human life, and children especially throve in the country. Measles, chicken-pox, and whooping-cough existed in Burmah in so mild a form as to excite little or no apprehension. The virtues of the Burmese were many and his failings were not a few. He displayed much spasmodic disregarded the sacredness of human life, was arrogant and inconsiderate when placed in high position, was generally truthful and, unlike most Orientals, was quite unable to tell a specious falsehood. Actual poverty was almost unknown, but on the other hand riches were never accumulated. The Burman was strongly distinguished from the Indian races by his love of sport and amusement, and by his strong turn for the ridiculous. The women were far more virtuous and industrious than the men. Rangoon was the chief port and most important military station and town in British Burmah. It was situated on the east bank of the Rangoon river, and was supplied with an admirable wharf, and steamers drawing 24ft. of water were able to proceed up to the town at high water. The town had doubled its population during the last twenty years, and in 1883 numbered 134,000 souls. The population of British Burmah had increased from 2,747,141 in 1872 to 3,736,771 in 1883, and trade had more than kept pace with the advance of the population. In conclusion, Mr. Hallett said that from personal experience of the country he was of the opinion that England could not in its own interest pursue a more wise or profitable policy than to devote special funds to the internal development of the vast resources of British Burmah. The conquest of Upper Burmah had been happily accomplished within the past few days. They could now drive the iron horse from India down the valley of the Irrawaddy and *viâ* Moulmein to the very gates of China without any political impediment. It now remained for the British Government and our mercantile community to do their part, and it was to be trusted that the present opportunity for permanently strengthening our position in Asia might not be allowed to pass away.

ARCTIC EXPLORATION.

Major Greely, of the United States Army, on Monday delivered, at the London University, an address on "Arctic Exploration with reference to Grinnell Land." The chair was taken by the President of the Royal Geographical Society, the Marquis of Lorne, and among those present were her Royal Highness Princess Louise, the American Minister, Admiral Sir E. Inglefield, Lord Arthur Russell, General Sir A. C. Rawlinson, Sir H. W. Peek, Sir Rawson Rawson, General Sir Beauchamp Walker, Sir George Nares, Captain Beaumont, Captain A. H. Markham, Admiral Sir A. Hoskins, Sir Leopold M'Clintock, Sir Allen Young, General Sir F. J. Goldsmid, and Sir H. Barkly.

After a few words of introduction from the President,

Major GREELY, who was received with loud cheers, rose and said that it must be with a certain degree of embarrassment that a speaker addressed an audience so large and so distinguished as that when he felt that he had made no especial preparations for a meeting which did him so much honour. Time and health having rendered it impossible that he should make preparation, he came to speak extemporaneously. If in so doing his remarks might not seem to be as coherent or as well connected, or if he did not apportion his time and his subject as well as he should, he was sure they would all be indulgent; and so, too, if in speaking of facts, separated as he was by thousands of miles from his notes and papers, if there should chance some slip of memory—some one of those fallacies of memory which must be the experience of every man who had led an eventful life—he was sure that of those facts or those slips that they would likewise believe that he was speaking of them as he believed them to be. He was going to speak that night of Grinnell Land. As they would see, Grinnell Land resembled very much a rather badly-shaped figure 8. It had been known only some thirty years, and the knowledge of it grew out of a voyage made, not for discovery, but in the interest of humanity—the summer voyage of Admiral Sir E. Inglefield, then Captain Inglefield, in search of Sir John Franklin. After recounting the history of the work of exploration which had since added to the knowledge of Grinnell Land, Major Greely went on to say that he sailed northwards in 1881 in command of an expedition, the work of which was purely scientific, at least so read the orders, but he would scarcely have been a man, or an American at least, if, going northwards for scientific purposes, he had not done his best to extend the knowledge of the geography of the Arctic regions. And so, sending forward a party under Lieutenant Lockwood, it was his pleasant lot one day to reach Lockwood Island. Meanwhile his attention was taken up in seeing that the expeditions he sent forward were properly supplied, and that everything was done to secure their safety and success; but when that was done he felt that he must do his part of the work. Although dogs failed him, he turned inland with three other men, and they succeeded in making perhaps one of the most remarkable of inland voyages of Arctic exploration, a trip of 250 miles in twelve days. They succeeded in outlining or making known the peculiar physical configurations of Grinnell Land. It showed to him a large river entering into an expansive fiord. That fiord led him up to the river, and as he followed up the latter he eventually came to its source, finding there, at the end of an Arctic winter of unparalleled severity, an open river which was fed from a glacial lake of great extent fed by glaciers from the northward, and situated some 500ft. above the sea. During the summer time he was able to make a second voyage into that country. Their trip then covered some 350 to 400 miles, it being quite impossible to tell with any degree of accuracy how far they travelled in an Arctic country; the path was such a very winding one and the way was so rough. He had no doubt that many of those assembled there that night pictured every place within the Arctic Circle as being a very desolate region, that there was naught there but rock and ice and snow; but in Grinnell Land he found something different. He found there, extending along that glacial lake, a large number of valleys which, leading to the westward, led him to the summit of a mountain, from which the whole of Grinnell Land lay stretched out before him as on a map. High in the valleys which he had mentioned game abounded in very considerable quantities. They killed during their two years' life in Grinnell Land over 200 musk oxen, and also saw some 200 more, and he had no doubt that to-day there were not far from 300 head of musk oxen roaming about that district of Grinnell Land, and living on the pasturage which covered the fertile valleys. In summer the country presented scenes of remarkable beauty; the mosses of the Arctic regions put on a colour and a luxuriousness which were never to be seen in the temperate climes; the browns, the yellows, the reds, and the greens so mingled as to give to the landscape a peculiar beauty. He had seen the creeping Arctic willow, which scarcely rises an inch above the soil, covering many acres of the ground so closely that the foot of man could not touch it. During the summer time the scenery was not entirely devoid of animal life apart from the musk oxen, which remained there during the whole year. Other life was to be seen; it was unnecessary to say that the Arctic wolf, the fox, the hare, and the ermine remained all the year. In addition there came a large number of birds, some thirty or more varieties, and among them one known as the snow bunting, which was, perhaps, not unknown in England; it was seen as far north as the foot of man had trodden. Among others were the king duck, the eider duck, and the long-tailed duck. The waders and the gulls were with them every summer for six or seven weeks, during which time the waters ran freely and the snow melted rapidly. The Arctic summer was, therefore, not quite so dreary as many people thought it was. He had no doubt that Grinnell Land within moderately recent ages had risen from the sea; and his view was borne out by the discovery of shells of existing species in the rocks. He had also found in one of the lakes about five or six miles from the seashore two trees embedded in one of the banks of the shore in such a state of preservation that he was able to use a considerable part of them for fuel. Major Greely then went on to discuss the various theories as to the formation of Arctic ice floes, and stated his own views on the subject. Referring to the spirit which animated the men who accompanied him, Major Greely said he would tell a little story of their experiences which had been told before. It was that when they found it necessary to drop everything which was not absolutely essential to them he felt a great desire to hold on to a pendulum—an instrument that had been made specially for him. Desirous as he was for scientific work, he did not feel that that instrument had any right to weigh down the men—to take away any chance of their lives. The men were rather rough men, recruited from the Army—men without much culture or high moral sentiments—and he said that when any of them should speak the word the pendulum should go, and then afterwards such other instruments as they might think it desirable to part with. But no one said the word, and some of the men spoke out and said, "Hold on to the pendulum, and if it goes to the bottom of the sea we'll go with it." And when the relief squadron came on the 22nd of June it stood there as an indication that they had come to the place to which they had promised to come, and that their work should live after them, even if they died. Major Greely concluded his address by thanking those present and the society which they represented for the keen and kindly interest they had taken in his work, and for the sympathy which they had extended towards him and his fellow explorers for the hardships which they had undergone. Major Greely was loudly cheered on resuming his seat.

M. de Lacaze Duthiers describes in the *Revue Scientifique* a curious phenomenon which he has observed in a parrot belonging to him. The bird is very intelligent, having an excellent memory for his friends and his enemies; of this trait and other marks of intelligence the writer gives several instances. The point of the article, however, is this :—The parrot has manifested an extraordinary affection for a little boy named Raymond, but usually called by the Southern diminutive "Monon." The child called M. Duthiers' attention one day to the fact that, whenever he played with the bird, the eyes of the latter became quite red. When the boy went away, the parrot would call out his name perpetually; when he returned, it would walk to and fro on its perch, exhibiting every mark of extreme pleasure; the eyes invariably grew red. At these times it would allow no one else, however friendly, to approach the cage; it would not eat its most favourite food. When the boy hid himself for a moment, the eyes became yellow, but suddenly reddened again when he reappeared. This phenomenon was observed only with this particular child, and with no one else. When the boy went to school, or when the bird was brought to Paris from the country it ceased completely. An examination of the bird's eye showed that the pupil is large, and usually dilated. The iris is only represented by a circular yellow band, bordered externally by a bright red strip. The pupils of parrots are known to be very mobile. When the bird manifests joy it contracts the iris voluntarily, the yellow disappears, and the red strip occupies its place, spreading itself out all over the surface of the back of the anterior chamber of the eye, giving the striking red tint observed first by the child. Here, then, is a bird, intelligent, and full of affection for a particular person, manifesting its joy by the contraction of its pupils, and thus voluntarily modifying the colour of its eyes. When violently angry, some streaks of red dart across the eye, but they never remain as in the other case. It is curious, concludes M. Duthiers, to see a phenomenon, regarded as independent of the will in the superior animals, thus found in association with feelings and acts which determine joy or anger, and which is apparently as voluntary as the movements of the feathers and all other essentially voluntary acts.

Mr. Gladstone has forwarded a Latin inscription for the Market Cross at Edinburgh. The translation is—"This ancient monument, the Cross of Edinburgh, which of old was set apart for public ceremonies, but having been utterly destroyed by misguided hands in 1756, was avenged and lamented in song nobly and manfully by Walter Scott, has now by favour of Edinburgh magistrates been restored by William Ewart Gladstone, who claims from both parents a purely Scottish descent."

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, DECEMBER 26.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

Mr. GLADSTONE finds himself in the unhappy plight of the engineer, "hoist with his own petard." The ingenious scheme that was devised for the purpose of replacing Mr. GLADSTONE in Downing-street at the head of a large majority ready to countenance any revolutions in the British Constitution that he might initiate, bids fair to result in finally disposing of all Mr. GLADSTONE'S hopes of a further tenure of office. The announcement of Mr. GLADSTONE'S readiness to concede Mr. PARNELL'S demands to dismember the kingdom and set up an Irish Parliament on College-green has been received on all sides with manifestations of surprise and indignation. Mr. GLADSTONE obviously expected that the guarded declaration of his views would elicit from his supporters and followers such evidences of approval as would crush all opposition in the ranks of the Liberal party, and enable him to at once conclude an alliance with Mr. PARNELL that would in the first week in the new Session lead to the overthrow of the Government, and place Mr. GLADSTONE at the head of a Cabinet pledged to grant Home Rule. These pleasant anticipations have not been realised. Mr. GLADSTONE has roused a storm of wrath amongst independent and patriotic Englishmen; he has to listen to the mutterings of indignation from his own followers, and he is confronted by open indications of mutiny from his leadership on the part of his most trusted and influential colleagues. It is not surprising that the Liberal leader shrinks back panic-stricken from the tempest he has raised, and sends exculpatory telegrams, that, whilst they do not deny, and so confirm, his responsibility for the policy of conceding an Irish Parliament, yet insinuate that he is in no way bound by the declarations put forth in his name by his son. Mr. GLADSTONE has succeeded in displaying to the world once more a striking spectacle of the vulgar craft, the consummate dishonesty, and the disreputable self-seeking of which, during his career, he has furnished so many illustrations. Thus far the English people has cause to congratulate itself upon the spirit in which Mr. GLADSTONE'S proposals have been met. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Sir CHARLES DILKE have most carefully guarded themselves from any intimation of approval of, or sympathy with, the cause of Irish Secession. And it was from the Radical wing of the party, if from any quarter, that Mr. GLADSTONE had to hope for support.

Lord HARTINGTON has taken decisive action. He has given publicity to a letter, written, it is understood, after consultation with Mr. GOSCHEN and other leading members of the Liberal party, in which he distinctly indicates his opposition to any scheme of Home Rule. Well-founded doubts may be entertained as to Lord HARTINGTON'S tenacity of purpose and adherence to the excellent political resolutions he is in the habit of announciug, but on this question there will be little temptation for him to yield.

The real danger of the present critical position of domestic politics is not that Mr. GLADSTONE'S and Mr. PARNELL'S policy should triumph, and an Irish Parliament and Irish independence be conceded to the Irish party of Secession. The danger is that the foolish fatalistic feeling that "something must be "done" should seize upon weak and well-meaning English politicians, and that they should conceive it necessary to make some concessions to Mr. PARNELL'S views by some scheme of Local Self-government for Ireland. There has been quite enough of legislation for Ireland in accordance with the "Irish ideas" of the Nationalists. Any fresh legislation that would have for its result the placing of fresh powers in the hands of the classes who support Mr. PARNELL must be unhesitatingly condemned and strenuously resisted. The present condition of Ireland requires, it is to be feared, the suppression of Irish Parliamentary representation and the temporary government of Ireland as a Crown Colony. The evils that must infallibly result from the position which Mr. PARNELL at present occupies in the Imperial Parliament are obvious. But it is not necessary to meet them by the concession of Mr. PARNELL'S demands. It is possible that public opinion is not yet ripe for the heroic measures that seem necessary if Ireland is to remain an integral part of the kingdom. But, in the meantime, other measures may well be adopted in order to overthrow Mr. PARNELL'S power and to re establish the authority of the QUEEN. The suppression of the National League, and of the treasonable propaganda that is carried on under its auspices, is clearly called for. A reform of Irish local government and of Irish administration is also necessary—planned, however, and carried out not with the aim of throwing more power into the hands of the Nationalists, but adapted so as to increase the influence of the loyal classes and to restore the authority of law and order throughout the country. The present condition of Ireland is a scandal to civilisation. If it is to cease, a thorough reform of Irish administration and local government is undoubtedly necessary. The healthy methods of benevolent despotism require to be introduced into Ireland. The country suffers from a surfeit of liberties that have degenerated into the foulest licence. It is for the Imperial Government to take those measures that will give to life and property in Ireland the security they have long ceased to enjoy, and will render sedition no longer a profitable and harmless occupation.

The cardinal fact in the present position of affairs in the Balkan peninsula is that there is every chance that hostilities will not be resumed. A pacific settlement may now with some degree of confidence be looked forward to. The military commission appointed by the Great Powers has decided that the Servians shall retreat from Bulgarian territory in the neighbourhood of Widdin on December 25, and that the Bulgarians shall retire from Pirot on December 27, the prior withdrawal of the Servians thus serving as the recognition of Bulgarian victory for which Prince ALEXANDER contended. The armistice is to be prolonged till March 1st, and long before that time it is to be hoped that the bases will be settled of enduring peace. There is now little doubt that the policy for which Lord SALISBURY has so boldly and skilfully contended against the Triple Alliance will be crowned with success. Russia itself is preparing to abandon its opposition to the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia under the sovereignty of Prince ALEXANDER, and means are now being sought to bring about at least the appearance of a reconciliation between the Russian Czar and the Bulgarian Prince. The conclusion of the armistice between Servia and Bulgaria gives to Turkey an opportunity that Turkish diplomacy will be well advised to speedily seize. It rests with the Sublime Porte to settle the questions still pending by coming to a cordial understanding with Prince ALEXANDER. The Sublime Porte has to decide whether it prefers to have Bulgaria as a friendly ally or to see the principality falling back into the condition of dependence on Russia from which it is for the time saved. If the Turkish Government is wise, it may achieve vast advantages for the Turkish Empire from recent events. It may secure in Bulgaria a formidable opponent to Russian designs on Constantinople, it will have seen Servian ambitions and schemes of aggrandisement hopelessly checked, and it will leave Greece confronted with the evidences of the futility of the vague dreams of Eastern sovereignty in which the politicians of Athens have been in the habit of indulging.

The debates on the French policy of colonial adventure that are proceeding this week in the Chamber of Deputies have been signalised by the unexpected communication by M. DE FREYCINET of the news that the expedition to Madagascar, which thus far has certainly not been attended with any degree of success, has ended with the conclusion of a treaty which concedes in a great measure the French claims. A healthy suspicion must always attend telegrams which arrive so opportunely to influence votes and opinions before a division is taken which will decide the fate of a Ministry. M. DE FREYCINET declines to vouch for the details of the statement that he publishes, and this fact is not without its significance. It is probable that an arrangement has been arrived at between the French and the Hovas that, whilst not giving the French all the advantages which the official telegram sets forth, will yet bring to an end an unhappy conflict. The Hovas have shown themselves so well able to sturdily uphold their independence that the concessions which the French may obtain on paper are not likely to prove of much practical advantage. On the question of commerce with Madagascar, England and Germany will have to be reckoned with, and a French monopoly to the prejudice of existing commercial relations is not likely to be tamely accepted by either the British or the German Government.

A MISCALCULATION?

The reception which Mr. GLADSTONE'S enunciation of a Home Rule policy has met with among his own most intimate political friends and lieutenants can hardly be supposed to have caused much satisfaction at Hawarden. Several of the leading members of the Liberal party who have commented upon his proposals have certainly done anything but accord them their support. There is little in the utterances of Mr. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN, of Lord SPENCER, or of Mr. TREVELYAN, to to indicate so much as a lukewarm sympathy with their chief's new departure. But the two really important declarations on the subject have been that of Lord HARTINGTON—understood also to represent the views of Mr. GOSCHEN, if not of other leading Liberals—and that of Mr. FORSTER. We have never been disposed to place the least reliance on the stability of the Moderate Liberal leaders in opposing the schemes of their "advanced" colleagues; but on the present occasion matters do really look very much as though the three statesmen just named have "put their foot down" at last, and are prepared to oppose Mr. GLADSTONE'S projects for paving the way for an Irish Republic. Lord HARTINGTON and Mr. FORSTER have spoken out pretty plainly; and in fact the only politician of note who has declared himself on Mr. GLADSTONE'S side is Mr. MORLEY.

It is impossible to doubt that all this must have caused considerable mortification to the author of the now notorious scheme. The interesting question is whether he did or did not foresee the attitude which so many of his principal followers would assume towards his proposals. If he did foresee it, as we are inclined to think he did—if he determined to go on with his project in spite of the known opposition of his faithful friends, what a light does this not throw upon the state of utter desperation to which this discredited politician had been reduced! Let him only come into office once more, and then *ruat cœlum*. Was there ever such a wretched, miserable spectacle as this of an aged man who has occupied the positions which he has done, abandoning himself to an attempt of unexampled recklessness, solely with the object of appearing whitewashed before the world after his career of failure and disgrace?

Probably, as we have said, he foresaw what his friends would think, but he did not mind abandoning even them in order to attain the much coveted end. But then he thought—he must have thought—that somewhere at least among his own countrymen there would be an enthusiastic outburst in his favour; not, indeed, a unanimous demonstration of Liberal approval, but at least enough to enable him, with the aid of the Irish alliance, to oust the Government and climb into office. That surely was his calculation, if anything was. And has it been verified? Or was it a miscalculation after all? Great as has been the excitement naturally caused by his declaration, will anybody affirm that the Liberal party as a whole, or even a considerable section of it, has adopted it as its own? If there does exist, in any quarter in the country, a widespread feeling of approbation of this scheme of Irish Home Rule, all we can say is that we have not met with it. We have observed nothing of the kind. On the contrary, the indications nearly all point the other way. Everything at present rather goes to show that the more the country considers the scheme, the less it likes it; and that the probability is that the very weapon which was forged for the destruction of the Government will inflict irreparable damage upon the Liberal-Radical Opposition.

POLITICS, CHRISTIAN AND ANTI-CHRISTIAN.

That "Religion has nothing to do with "Politics" is a proposition which hardly anyone would now be found to maintain, at least in its baldest form. Yet there was a time, not so long since, when the phrase was very widely accepted as expressing almost a truism. A clergyman, for instance, who took an active interest in politics was considered to be overstepping the boundaries of his legitimate field of action—an idea which Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT is still endeavouring zealously to propagate. Churchmen used to be solemnly warned that for them "mere politics" should be a matter of quite subordinate interest. And even in these days, when the machinery of "mere politics" is being actively brought into play in order to damage Religion and the Church, the old formula is found to be not yet quite obsolete, and is wont to reappear in the shape of an admonition to Churchmen on no account to identify themselves with any political party. It is, indeed, perceived and acknowledged that an overwhelming majority of one great political section is "identified" with an anti-Church policy; and that the other great political party is, and always has been, not merely "identified" with an opposite policy, but firmly rooted in the determination to uphold Religion and the Church as representing it. But, though this is perfectly understood, we still hear uttered the old outcry against injuring the cause of true Religion by connecting it with the cause of a political party—the cry of "mere politics" again! Even those who take up this attitude are, however, compelled to admit that, at any rate, religious questions do play a leading part—*the* leading part—in the political controversies of the day. The fact is, of course, too patent to be ignored. The raising of such questions among ourselves as those of Disendowment, Religious Education, the Marriage Law, and the admission of declared Atheists to Parliament suffices to prove that in this country Politics, so far from being severed from Religion, are very closely bound up with it. When we look abroad the same thing is to be observed there: in some instances to an even greater degree.

So far, then, the existence of some connection between Politics and Religion needs no proving. What, however, is not equally obvious, and yet, as we believe, is equally true, is the fact that Politics as a whole, and not merely with respect to directly religious questions, cannot be severed from Religion. The great issues which are being fought out in our day are fundamentally religious. They resolve themselves ultimately into the one great issue, whether Power comes from above or from below—whether authority is Divine or only human. The battle is really round the question of the Truth of the Incarnation. The Incarnation is the central fact of the world's history. It obviously *must* affect the whole relations of men with each other—social and political, as well as personal. It is impossible to conceive that the presence of Incarnate GOD in the world should make no difference in these relations—that men's mutual duties are just the same as they would have been if the Incarnation had never happened. To maintain that the duty of individuals to society finds its ultimate sanction only in the mutual consent of its members, without the control of an Authority external to and supreme over society itself—to pretend to rest the obligation of obedience to law on any other foundation than the authority of the DIVINE LAWGIVER—is to deny and reject the claim embodied in the words, "All power "is given to ME in heaven and in earth." *All* power includes every kind of rule and authority, secular as well as religious; so that there is absolutely no authority on earth of any sort or description, great or small, in Church or in State, that is not Divine—that is not delegated from that Incarnate GOD to Whom "all power "is given in earth." No other authority exists or can exist, and no claims on our obedience which do not rest on this authority have, or can have, the slightest validity.

Now this, in its essence, is what may be called the Conservative position—using the epithet in its largest sense. The great Revolutionary movement is the precise negation of it. We know that the Revolution is, as a fact, associated with Atheism. But, more than this, it is essentially Atheistic and anti-religious to its very core. The anti-religious principle permeates even its secular policy. The hostility of the Revolution towards Religion is not a mere episode in its action. It is a part of its very being. The Revolution is the embodiment of the anti-Christian spirit. It is a vast negation of the Incarnation of the SON of GOD. Nothing could more exactly correspond to ST. JOHN'S description of the spirit of ANTICHRIST as denying that GOD is manifested in the Flesh. It denies the Incarnation, not only in express terms, but also by implication, because it rejects the Authority delegated by CHRIST on earth, and sets up a new standard of pretended Authority of its own devising. And as there is a visible and definite organisation representative of the Christian principle in Church and State, so there is a definite organisation of the forces arrayed against Christianity in the secret Revolutionary societies which play so prominent a part in modern politics. The notion that the political movements of our time are merely the outcome of the working of various social forces is utterly shallow and unreal. Behind these movements and these antagonisms there is another and greater struggle proceeding between the Christian and the anti-Christian principles. That momentous contest will never be finally decided until ANTICHRIST himself is overthrown; but it ought not to be difficult for a Christian man to choose his side in the contest in which he is called to take part, and in which the real issues at stake become every day plainer and more manifest.

THE CITY CHURCHES.

The letter which Mr. HENRY WRIGHT, the Honorary Secretary of the City Church and Churchyard Protection Society, has addressed to the *Times*, on the subject of the proposed desecration and demolition of four churches in the City of London, will, we trust, arouse Churchmen in the City and throughout the whole country to offer these schemes the most strenuous opposition. Of the designs against the churchyards where the remains of so many generations of our forefathers lie at rest, it is surely unnecessary to speak at length. The indecency of such an outrage is too obvious to need comment, and we feel confident that public opinion will be found emphatically to condemn it. Our purpose on the present occasion is rather to examine the arguments by which it is sought to justify the destruction of the churches. It is represented by the promoters of this policy that the City churches are, owing to the ever-increasing tendency of the resident population to migrate to the outskirts of London, much more numerous than is necessary. It is pointed out that the attendance at the Sunday services of many of the City churches is exceedingly thin; while, on the other hand, we are reminded of the vast need of new churches in other parts of the diocese of London. Hence, it is contended, the true method of correcting this waste and alleviating this spiritual destitution is to pull down a number of these churches that are not wanted in the localities where they at present stand, to sell the materials and the sites, and to apply the proceeds to building and endowing new churches in places where they are wanted. No doubt there is an aspect of practical utility about this scheme that is calculated to attract the approval of those who place spiritual efficiency above mere sentiment, and who, having thoroughly realised the vastness of the spiritual needs of the London diocese, are anxious to mitigate it by recourse to a method that seems so simple and so readily available.

There is one question, however, which we venture to think has not received the attention it deserves at the hands of those who favour the policy of demolishing the City churches. It is this—whether the course which they advocate would really effect the object they have in view. In writing on this point we particularly desire that it should be understoood that our opinion is based, not upon conjecture, but upon actual experience. There exists the highest possible authority

for asserting positively that the experience already acquired in the destruction of a large number of City churches for the purpose mentioned above proves incontestably that the object in view has not been attained. When a church is pulled down, and the site and materials sold for what they will fetch, it has been found that, by the time all expenses are paid and all vested interests satisfied, a very large proportion of the proceeds has been swallowed up, and a correspondingly small proportion remains available for the relief of spiritual needs elsewhere. On this point there can simply be no doubt whatever, and we challenge contradiction upon it. Therefore we say that the first plea—that of supplying the wants of other districts by demolishing the City churches—is utterly fallacious and devoid of force.

But, next, as to the alleged uselessness of the churches where they stand now. It is stated that the Sunday congregations in many of them are very small. We will assume that the counting of the congregations has been fairly done—a point as to which we feel no sort of confidence whatever; for, unless we are mistaken, the counting has generally been carried out at a morning service, and not an evening one. The assumption is that the congregation is thin simply because the resident population of the parish is small. That assumption we wholly and emphatically deny. It is quite notorious in the City that the prime reason why congregations are thin is simply because parish priests are non-resident. It is a little difficult to discuss this point adequately without entering into personalities, which we desire altogether to avoid. We have in view, as illustrations of our argument, two City churches, both of which are situated in densely populated neighbourhoods, where a number of poor people live in crowded courts and alleys situated behind great thoroughfares. In the one case the congregation at the period to which we are alluding was extremely thin; in the other, almost *nil*. In both instances the parish priest lived at a distance from his parish—one of them at a very great distance. And the hardship of this as regarded one of these parishes was that the parish vestry had been at the pains and expense of putting the rectory-house in a thoroughly habitable condition, in the hope that their Rector would reside among them. Our reply on this head is, then, this—let the parish-priests of the City look after their flocks, and there will be little cause to complain of small congregations. The idea that the resident population of the City is an extremely sparse one is a thorough delusion. Of course, it is vastly less dense than it was years ago; but any one who chooses to inquire for himself into the matter will discover that the number of residents is still very considerable. Indeed, a walk through the streets of the City on a Sunday is quite sufficient to show that it is by no means in a deserted condition. After all, the best proof of our assertion is the fact that in those parishes which are well cared for, and where the Church's services are rendered becomingly and reverently, the congregations are very considerable. Take the churches of St. Ethelburga in Bishopsgate, or of St. Edmund-the-King in Lombard-street, or of St. Mary Woolnoth, or of St. Mary-le-Bow in Cheapside, or of St. Mary Aldermary in Cannon-street, or of St. Lawrence by the Guildhall, or of St. Margaret Pattens in Rood-lane, or of St. Augustine in Watling-street—we might mention many more—and it will be found that good services and effective preaching draw considerable and even large congregations.

We have been speaking, be it noted, of Sundays only. But this brings us to the question, which we desire to press home—Why should the utility of the City churches be measured by their Sunday services? Clearly there is no reason why it should. In the case of the churches we have just named, and of many others besides, their Sunday congregations, respectably numerous as they are, will not bear comparison with the crowds which attend their worship on week-days. Anybody who is really acquainted with the City churches will bear witness to the truth of our statement as to the admirable and successful use to which many of the City churches are put in this way. We think these reasons ought to be more than sufficient to induce the Bishop of London and others in authority to pause before they promote new schemes of demolition. We have omitted to notice the contention, which we believe to rest on good grounds, that it is quite possible that before many years are over special causes may once more tend to increase the resident population in the City of London. Nor have we dwelt on Dr. Liddon's suggestion that particular churches might profitably be devoted to special uses—one given over for the use of the police, another for that of postmen, and so forth. We are quite content to rest the case in defence of these beautiful and venerable monuments of our national history, and of our forefathers' zeal for God, on the considerations noted above; and we trust that Churchmen will at once bestir themselves to protect for posterity the noble heritage entrusted to them in the churches of the City of London.

Reviews.

WILLIAM CAREY.*

More than half a century has passed since the death of William Carey, and it seems somewhat late in the day to write the story of his life. But Mr. George Smith, having contributed to the history of Indian missions biographies of Duff of Calcutta and Wilson of Bombay, has deemed it necessary to complete what he considers to be a sufficient view of that history by adding a biography of Carey of Serampore. The result is a bulky volume of some 450 pages, which is, truth to tell, somewhat dreary reading. The general reader is apt to be frightened away from the study of missionary literature by a certain kind of professional tone which it is so often deemed necessary to adopt in books treating of such subjects. Mr. Smith is certainly an offender in this respect, and the memory of his hero is likely to suffer rather than to profit by the conventional tone of eulogy in which his career is described. We may, perhaps, be regarded as somewhat prejudiced judges in this respect, for it is impossible not to feel some annoyance at the manner in which all the efforts of the Church for the evangelisation of India are disregarded, and the whole credit is claimed for the Dissenting bodies of which William Carey was the representative. But despite our conscientious attempt to regard the present volume apart from any such prejudice, we must own that we have found considerable difficulty in getting through it, and we cannot recommend it to our readers as an exhilarating work. Had the writer reduced the materials at his disposal to a more manageable size, and had he been able to adopt a less conventional method of treating them, the result might have been very different. For Carey was, without doubt, a remarkable man. Born in an obscure little village, "in the dullest period of the "dullest of all centuries," with no external advantages, and compelled to labour for his livelihood as a village shoemaker, nothing but the most indomitable energy could have enabled him to educate himself as he did; nothing but the most earnest faith could have induced him to set forward on his missionary enterprise. His biographer, we may observe, diverges into a panegyric on shoemakers in general, and an enumeration of the most distinguished brethren of St. Crispin, which it would be well to circulate among Mr. Bradlaugh's constituents, who certainly do not come up to Mr. Smith's ideal.

William Carey himself was born in the village of Pantersbury, eleven miles south of Northampton, the parish church of which is somewhat curiously described by his biographer as "originally "built in Early English, and rebuilt in 1844." His grandfather was the parish clerk and village schoolmaster, but the future missionary early in life came to the conclusion, "that the Church of "England as by law established was the camp in "which all were protected from the scandal of the "Cross," and that therefore it was his duty to bear the reproach of Christ among the Dissenters—a frame of mind which is strangely enough regarded by his biographer as showing that he was "emptied of self.' This is compared with the conversion of "Paul:" we need hardly say that we always find the Apostle of the Gentiles thus familiarly described. His—Carey's, not Paul's—attention was early in his career as a Baptist minister attracted by the subject of missions to the heathen, and in 1792 he published a pamphlet on the subject with a very lengthy title, of which his biographer says, in that strain of extravagant eulogy which he deems it necessary to adopt through the whole course of his narrative, that "it was "written in a cultured and almost finished style, "such as few, if any, University men of that day "could have produced." Mr. Smith adds, as an explanation of this extravagant statement, "for "none were impelled by such a motive as Carey "had"—which is hardly a logical explanation of the superiority in literary style of the village shoemaker over the University men of the day. It is certainly a strange assumption that literary culture is the distinguishing feature of earnest Baptist shoemakers. Nor is the assumption that a sufficient impelling is bound to produce a superiority in literary style borne out by the evidence of Mr. Smith's own literary style, which is of the most slipshod description. To take almost at random one out of many examples which we had marked, what is to be said for such a sentence as the following?—

> When the childlike ignorance and natural grace of the Hawaiians, which had at first fired him with the longing to tell them the good news of God, were seen, turned into the wild justice of revenge which made Cook its first victim, Carey became all the more eager to anticipate the disasters of later days.

The story of Carey's wonderful success in India, and of his remarkable power of acquiring native languages, is told at great length by Mr. Smith. There is very much in that story which is striking, and we must not allow our estimate of a remarkable man to be lowered by the indiscretion of his biographer. But the latter has certainly done all he can by his exaggeration to arouse our suspicions, and by his narrow prejudice to arouse a bitter feeling in the minds of his readers. It is, therefore, for the sake of his hero's own fame as well as for the cause of Missions in general, much to be regretted that his animosity towards the Church should be so pronounced. The tone which he adopts may be fairly judged by such specimens of it as his protest against "the 'Bishop' theory, "which has so often imperilled the extension of "pure Christianity, from the days of Constantine "and the interference of the Bishops of Rome with "the Scoto-Irish Missions to the present hour in "Ceylon and Bombay," and his indignation at the annalist of the Bible Society venturing to attribute erudition and personal influence to some members of the Established Church. Mr. Smith's book may be regarded as a welcome addition to Baptist hagiology, but it cannot be regarded as a welcome addition to the history of Christian missions.

* *Life of William Carey, D.D.* By George Smith, LL.D., C.I.E.—London: John Murray, 1885.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

It is with somewhat of a feeling of surprise that we find *Rachel* enrolled in the *Eminent Women Series* now in course of publication by Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co. The life of the French *tragédienne*, which has been entrusted to Mrs. Arthur Kennard, is not an edifying one, though we may be content to adopt the "kindlier "and more charitable view of her stirring un-"happy life" which is pressed upon us by her present biographier. That biographer, in her own words, has endeavoured "to extract the "poetry and romance of her life, rejecting what "is base and unworthy." But in so doing she has of necessity sacrificed truth which could not well be told to poetry and romance. The result is a very readable and interesting book, full of amusing gossip and anecdote derived from the pages of Jules Janin and Arsène Houssaye, supplemented by Mdme. de B.'s Memoirs. Mrs. Kennard has fallen back on Rachel's own letters, few of which, if we may believe M. Cremieux's revelations, were written by herself. It is not, indeed, possible for any writer, bound by the limitations which have been imposed on Mrs. Kennard by the nature of the series of which her volume forms part, to describe the real Rachel, nor would such a description be very edifying for English readers; but she has skated skilfully over very thin ice, and has given a most readable and most amusing sketch of the great French actress, illustrated by not a few amusing anecdotes and brilliant criticisms gathered from contemporary Parisian literature.

The weightiest contribution to Christmas literature is unquestionably that made by Messrs. Kelly and Co. Their *Post-Office Directory*, which has once more made its appearance in anticipation of the New Year, is really a marvellous manifestation of enterprise and industry. The labour and the painstaking which go to the compilation of this huge volume deserve, and undoubtedly receive, the fullest appreciation. The *Directory* is always distinguished by wonderful accuracy, and by the careful fashion in which the information, with which each line in each page bristles, is corrected up to the very date of publication. The present volume, for instance, embodies the results of the elections that are but just finished. Any commendation of the *Directory* would be a work of supererogation. It naturally finds a place in every office and counting-house.

Messrs. W. and A. K. Johnston, of Edinburgh, have issued, on a single sheet, at the price of a shilling, two coloured *Maps to Illustrate the Servo-Bulgarian War*. They are quite the best and clearest we have met with. The one illustrates the Eastern Question; the other, on a larger scale, exhibits the geography of the Balkan peninsula in greater detail. A short abstract of the Treaty of Berlin is appended.

In the case of so well known and deservedly appreciated a work as Cassell's *Dictionary of Cookery*, we need do no more than record the appearance of the first part of a new edition. The book is to be completed in thirteen sixpenny parts.

In the newly-published part of Sir G. Grove's *Dictionary of Music and Musicians* (Macmillan), including articles from "Verse" to "Water-Music", there is an important article by Mr. E. J. Payne on the Violin. It is interesting to note that the names "Violin" and "Fiddle" are both derived from the Latin *fides*, 'a string' (diminutive *fidicula*); the one through the Low Latin *fidula* and Italian *viola* (diminutive *violino*), the other through the Old French *fideille*. The genealogy of the instrument is here deduced from the lyre and the monochord, and its history in each stage of its development is minutely and clearly traced by the aid of a number of illustrative woodcuts. An account is also given of the methods of its manufacture and of the points characteristic of its chief makers. Mr. Payne's remarks on the comparative values of old and new violins are well worth the attention of amateurs. The same writer also contributes the article on Violoncello-Playing. An admirable paper on Violin-Playing has for its author Herr Paul David, who elaborately explains the connections of the principal schools of violin-playing, and the relation of master and pupil among celebrated violinists. From a useful table included in the article it can be seen at a glance that Herr Joachim, for instance, directly traces his professional pedigree back through Böhm, Rode, Viotti, Pugnani, and Somis, to Corelli, who was born in 1653. Sarasate belongs to another branch of the Corelli tree. Wieniawski, on the other hand, sprang from a wholly different stock, that of Mannheim; while Mdme. Norman-Néruda ranks among the executants of the Viennese school. Herr David describes the artistic merits of Corelli and Tartini; the progress of executive art necessary to do justice to the compositions of Haydn and Beethoven; and the immense influence over modern violin-playing exercised at the beginning of this century by Spohr and Paganini, and in our own day by Joachim. Herr David's criticisms of modern performers evince the wide knowledge and discriminating judgment which we should expect from so thoroughly accomplished a musician and competent a writer. Mr. A. J. Hipkins and Mr. Barclay Squire contribute articles on the Virginal and on Virginal Music respectively. But the great feature of the present instalment of the dictionary is Mr. Dannreuther's treatise, occupying nearly thirty pages, on Richard Wagner and his works. The writer's unrivalled acquaintance with his subject is apparent throughout, and there has been no more really valuable contribution to Sir George Grove's Dictionary than this. Of the other biographical notices of musicians the principal is that of Vogler, by Mr. J. H. Mee. Of less importance, but of considerable interest, are those of Mdme. Viardot-Garcia, Vieuxtemps, Viotti, Vittoria, Wallace, and Walmisley. Mrs. Edmond Wodehouse's list of collections of Volkslieder deserves mention for its completeness. Finally, we must express our thanks to Mr. Rockstro for a most just and necessary protest, which occurs in his article on Voices, in favour of the revival of the true Boy-Contralto in our English Cathedral choirs in place of the falsetto Counter-Tenor that has been in vogue ever since the Restoration epoch.

Several months ago we noticed the publication of the small edition, containing the words only, of the *Altar Hymnal* (Griffith, Farran, and Co.). The favourable judgment which, on the whole, we felt justified in according to the work we are glad to be able to extend to it in its complete form. The quarto musical edition has just appeared under the efficient musical editorship of Mr. Arthur Henry Brown, who is also the composer of no less than seventy-eight of the tunes. The first point to be noticed is that the proper ancient melodies have been throughout provided for the ancient words, although in many cases alternative settings of a modern character have also been given. This reverential employment of the Church's ancient music is deserving of all praise. In the work of harmonising it the musical editor has been in many cases assisted by the Rev. S. S. Greatheed, and to some extent by the Rev. G. H. Palmer. Some of these Plain-Song melodies are now printed for the first time in this country. We may cite as a specimen the fine French hymn, number 145. Less satisfactory is the treatment of the Introits, Graduals, Tracts, Alleluias, Offertories, &c. For certain festivals—among which *Corpus Christi* might surely have been included—the complete music of the Introits adapted from the Ratisbon Gradual is supplied from Mr. A. H. Brown's book of Introits; and reference is also made in the Preface to the Rev. G. H. Palmer's admirable collection of Introits adapted from the Mechlin Gradual. Meanwhile of all the remaining Introits, &c. only the words are given, and a number of chants have been composed by the Musical Editor for use with them. Such an arrangement is of course a mere makeshift. Considerations of space and expense no doubt excuse recourse being had to it; but these difficulties only illustrate the undesirability of attempting to include too much in one book. Of the modern hymn-tunes provided in this work little more need be said than that the skill and taste of the Musical Editor have been employed to the greatest advantage. To take one instance—his alternative tune to *Veni Emmanuel* is a good example of a modern melody permeated, so to speak, with the spirit of the old; and this sympathy with the old Church music is characteristic of Mr. Brown's compositions. Dr. Pearce contributes several fine tunes, including a melodious setting (number 46) of the utterly disfigured version of Faber's "Holy Ghost, come down upon "Thy children," in which the grand rhythm of the original words is entirely lost. Of the Rev. J. B. Powell's tunes one of the best is that given for Mrs. Hernaman's excellent translation of the Sarum Sequence for the Holy Name, *Jesu, dulcis Nazarenus*; but we must once more avow that we sadly miss the alternative *Jesu, dulcis memoria*, from the Sarum Gradual. One of its proper tunes (admirably harmonised) and a fragment of the hymn itself are inserted among the "Hymns for General Use" (number 179); but the most lovely and pathetic of its two ancient melodies is altogether wanting. While we are mentioning omissions, it occurs to us that as a second tune for the *Veni Creator* we should rather have expected the fine setting by Palestrina, even if the whole of Attwood's could not have been given complete besides. The book, taken as a whole, must be pronounced the most satisfactory hymnal that has appeared for years past. We feel sure that Churchmen generally will endorse Mr. Carter's commendation of it as "a reposi-"tory of treasures admirably suited to provide "what is felt more and more to be necessary to "give full effect to the different portions of the "Eucharistic Service, and to assist the reverent "devotion of worshippers."

Messrs. Griffith and Farran publish an excellent variety of Diaries, Engagement-books, Pocket-books, and Calendars for the New Year. The *Court Diary* will be found exceedingly useful. It is published in various handy sizes, at different prices, and gives for each day convenient spaces for recording disbursements, engagements, and current notes. It is prettily

bound and printed, and deserves a place in boudoir and drawing-room. Pettitt's *Scribbling Diaries*, for which we are also indebted to Messrs. Griffith and Farran, are interleaved with blotting-paper and give ample space for memoranda for every day in the year, and all the varied information that renders them serviceable for office use. Blackwood's Pocket-books, that are also issued by Messrs. Griffith and Farran, are prettily got up and are excellently adapted for purposes of reference in every-day life.

From Messrs. Bemrose we have received some useful Calendars, that deserve to find a place on the wall of the library and the counting-house.

Correspondence.

A CONSTITUTIONAL DISCOURAGEMENT.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—A Parliament newly constituted will ere long assemble. And an unusual interest attaches to that prospective event from the fact that in the House of Commons a largely increased electorate will be represented.

This increase has been effected after laborious statistical calculations, nightlong hours of Parliamentary discussion, studious delimitations of electoral districts by assiduous gentlemen of the learned profession, and a hurricane of verbiage which has swept over the land, accompanied by a storm of personal vituperation and windy declamation. Moreover, these preparatory exertions have been supplemented by pilgrimages of toiling electors to their respective ballot-boxes, rendered more interesting on occasions by applications of physical force, and such displays of the combative elements in human nature as have demanded military interference for their suppression.

However, as a season of comparative tranquillity after all this commotion has now happily succeeded, it may be instructive—and interesting, too, to those who profess a jealous regard for the British Constitution—to take a deliberate view during the lull of the situation. And one would imagine, after all this profuse expenditure of forces—intellectual, local, rhetorical, and physical—that it must be sadly discouraging to them to reflect on the certain fact that when the new Parliament meets it will neither be constitutionally constructed nor legally complete.

For, beyond all question, of the three batches of Royal Writs issued from the Crown Office for the election of representatives in this Reformed Parliament, one whole batch of those instruments still remain unexecuted. The two batches directed respectively to sheriffs of counties and to retiring officers of boroughs, have been duly obeyed and effectively carried out. But the third remaining batch has been in every instance disregarded, and the Royal commands disobeyed. Some of those writs remain still unexecuted, and no representatives have, according to their directions been elected.

Here below is given a transcript of one (so far as is needful for understanding its contents) taken from an official copy obtained from the House of Lords, on paper impressed with the proper insignia:—

Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, to the Right Rev. Father in God, . . ., Bishop of . . ., greeting—

Whereas, by the advice and consent of our Council for certain arduous and urgent affairs concerning Us, the State, and defence of our said United Kingdom, and the Church, we have ordered a certain Parliament to be holden at our City of Westminster, on the . . . day of . . . next ensuing . . . , there to treat and have conference. . . . We strictly enjoin and command you by the faith and love by which you are bound to Us that, . . . waiving all excuses, you be at the said day and place personally present, . . . to treat and give your counsel upon the affairs aforesaid. . . . And this, as you regard Us and our honour, and the safety and defence of the said United Kingdom . . . in no wise do you omit FOREWARNING the Dean and Chapter of your Church of . . . , the Archdeacons and all the Clergy of your Diocese, that they, the said Dean and Archdeacons, in their proper persons, and the said Chapter by one, and the said Clergy by two, meet proctors . . . at the said day and place, be personally present to consent to those things which then and there, by the Common Council of our said United Kingdom (by the favour of the Divine clemency), shall happen to be ordered.—Witness Ourselves, at . . . , the . . . day of . . . , in the . . . year of our reign.

If any one should for a moment suppose that these Parliamentary writs are in any way connected with the Convocations, an institution which we have lately been informed is an "Archaic Megatherium," he labours under very serious misapprehensions, and such hallucinations may be at once and for ever dispelled by a reference to the preambles of the Statutes 21 Rich. II. c. 2—21 Rich. II., c. 12; to the Irish Statute, 10 Hen. VII., c. 12; to the treatise *De Modo tenendi Parliamentum* [Brit. Mus., Add. 15,191]; to Bibl. Cotton., Julius, B. 4, p. 4, fol. xviii., fol. 21; to Atterbury, Wake, and to such like writers. In fact, the above writ is no more connected with the Convocations than is the Khedive's summons to his Assembly of Notables at Cairo. It is a purely Parliamentary writ.

The Royal Writs for convening the Convocations are totally different instruments from the one above quoted, both as to the persons to whom they are directed, as to the place where the assembly is to meet, and also as to the authority before whom it is to be convened. The Convocation Writs are directed by the Crown to the two Metropolitans, the Parliamentary Writs now in question generally to each individual Bishop having only a seat in Parliament. The Convocation Writs direct that the ecclesiastical assemblies should be convened respectively at St. Paul's, London, and at St. Peter's, York. The Parliamentary Writ defines Westminster as the place of meeting. The Convocation Writs require the assemblies to be convened before the two Metropolitans respectively. The Parliamentary Writ specifies attendance before the Sovereign in person.

In fine, the Parliamentary Writ above recited—containing what is technically called the "Premunientes" clause, a mediæval corruption of "præmontes," "forewarning"—is of great antiquity, and dates from the year 1295 (23 K. Ed. I.). Since that time it has been continuously issued, and was for a long period very exactly obeyed. Nor is there wanting evidence of its due execution in comparatively recent times, as may be seen in Riley's *Placita* and other authorities; in many cases the names of the Parliamentary Proctors elected in accordance with the commands of the Crown being specifically recorded.

It may be gravely doubted whether our leading politicians at the present time would think the above to be a matter worthy of a moment's consideration. They have more personally interesting matters under hand. And it is equally questionable whether any of those new aspirants to political honours, who have lately in large numbers for the first time secured seats in Parliament, would be in any way discouraged by a hint thrown out of any doubt as to the complete and perfect constitution of that august assembly which they are about to adorn, and in which they may hope to achieve oratorical fame.

But of three things there can be no possible doubt whatever. And they are the three following:—First, that it seems passing strange that in this matter Royal authority and the commands of the Crown should be so slenderly respected. Secondly, that if either of the other two above-mentioned batches of writs devoted respectively to sheriffs and returning officers for constituting the new Parliament had been in like manner disobeyed, an explosive clamour of remonstrance would have resounded through the land. And, thirdly, that it would be exceedingly interesting, at least to some people, to hear this matter fully and fairly argued out with the advantage of all the learning, ingenuity, and eloquence which might be contributed to the subject from the neighbourhood of the Temple and Lincoln's-inn-fields.

JAMES WAYLAND JOYCE,
Burford Rectory, Tenbury, Dec., 1885.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on December 5, 12, 19, and 26.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competitions so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 2.

TENTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

1.	S	ardanapalu	S
2.	U	glian	O
3.	N	assa	U
4.	N	igh	T
5.	Y	armout	H

LIGHT 1.—Byron's Sardanapalus.

LIGHT 2.—Island in the Adriatic, opposite Dalmatia.

Solutions have been received from Waddles, Yar, B. V., Pegasus, Etak, Iris, Random Shot, Land o' Nod, Cholmsford, The Owl, Hadji, Asphodel, Alias, and Paldy.

SEPTEMBER TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Allspice and Persevere, who remain competing.

OCTOBER TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Boam, Godiva, Katydid, Rud, and Roma, who remain competing.

NOVEMBER TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Hampton Courtier, M. A. E. B., and Peewit, who remain competing. Bijou and Co. and Sunga fall out of the competition.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 4.

(TENTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

PROEM.

Earth has endowed with beauty the place,
But from heaven it wins its crowning grace.

1.

The owner of a brazen bull,
With burning victims often full.

2.

The broom it was gave the house the name
By which 'tis chiefly known to fame.

3.

His the dream and his the aid
That led the world to a first crusade.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

The *Athenæum* states that Lord Salisbury will shortly publish, probably in one of the magazines, an essay embodying the results of some recent work in chemical analysis.

Lieutenant Greely's narrative of Arctic adventures will, it is understood, be published by Messrs. Bentley in January. It will contain upwards of 100 illustrations, mostly engraved from photographs.

It is proposed to arrange Sir John Millais's pictures in the Grosvenor Gallery so that the more important examples will be hung in the large room, the smaller and earlier paintings in the room generally appropriated to such works. Drawings, including a limited number of book illustrations, some of which are of great beauty, will be exhibited, together with a selection of fine impressions of woodcuts. A collections of choice proofs of engravings made by Mr. T. O. Barlow, Mr. S. Cousins, and others will be included in the exhibition.

The ninth divisional volume of Messrs. Cassell and Co.'s *Encyclopædic Dictionary* will be ready for publication in a few days. The volume extends from "Memorandum" to "Parbuckle."

Illustrations is the title of a threepenny monthly magazine which, under the editorship of Mr. Francis George Heath, will commence in January. It is designed "to occupy a position not yet filled by any existing journal," and will be "a pictorial review of knowledge of all kinds, comprehending amusements, art, domestic economy, inventions, literature, and science." The publishers will be Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co.

Signor F. Tacchini, the successor of Signor F. Secchi at the Observatory of the Collegio Romano, has published a confirmation of the astronomer Forel's statement that the sun's corona is, in a clear sky, discernible on high mountains in a surprisingly distinct manner. He himself observed the phenomenon from the summit of Etna at the beginning of July. At Rome, Naples, Messina, Catania, the sun appeared surrounded by a broad white crown; but, from the top of Etna, 3,300 mètres above the level of the sea in a very clear sky, it presented the appearance of a white ring surrounded by a splendid copper-red corona. Near the horizon, the sun's appearance changed into an ill-defined arch of great span. He was able to observe all these phenomena at leisure on two different days. At sunrise and sunset he saw clearly the beautiful red light of the arch. But he is of opinion that those appearances are not as strong and brilliant this year as in 1833 and 1884.

The tendency of the upper classes of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries to desert their country houses at Christmas time is (writes a correspondent to *Notes and Queries*) illustrated by the following facts:—William Fleetwood, afterwards Queen's Serjeant, in a letter to the Earl of Derby, dated "New Yere's Daye," 1589, says:—"The gentlemen of Norff. and Suffolk were commanded to departe from London before Xtemmas, and to repaire to their countries, and there to kepe hospitalitie amongest their neighboura." And Peacham, in his *Compleat Gentleman*, says:—"Much doe I detest that effeminacy of the most that burne out day and night in their beds and by the fireside; in trifles, gaming, &c., all the winter, in a city; appearing but as cuckoos in the spring, one time in the yeare to the countrey and their tenants, leaving the care of keeping good houses at Christmas to the honest yeomen of the countrey."

"English Homes in the Seventeenth Century" was the subject of an interesting paper read by Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, of Kettering, before a crowded meeting of the Architectural Association, held at 9, Conduit-street, on Friday evening; Mr. R. C. Pink, president, in the chair. Mr. Gotch, having sketched the chief features of the Renaissance in England, referred to many well-known "stately homes," dwelling especially on the domestic and social arrangements which their plans were intended to subserve. After expatiating on the picturesqueness and quaintness of these old mansions, the lecturer, in conclusion, glanced at them from the point of view in which some of them must be regarded by their builders' descendants in this the nineteenth century. It could hardly be denied, he said, that there was an absence of comfort in most houses of the seventeenth century. The accommodation was in excess of what was now required, and it was badly arranged. Convenience, economy, sanitation were hardly thought of. Many of the rooms were "thoroughfare" rooms, or, if not, they were connected by long corridors, not infrequently dark. The hall, the dining-room, the withdrawing-room, and the bed-rooms were often terribly scattered, rendering it necessary to take a long walk before one could get to the breakfast-table. Nothing was more common in these old houses than to see new corridors, which had had to be added in order to go from one side of the house to the other without either making the tour of the rooms or going out of doors. Economy in their building seemed to have been almost unknown. The amount of outside wall to some comparatively small houses was astonishing. The waste of space in passages and staircases was something shocking. Sanitation was less heeded than it had been two centuries earlier. Such remains of the latrines of fortified places of the 14th century as had come down to us showed that ventilation and isolation of those conveniences were carefully attended to. In Jacobean houses, on the contrary, their position was hardly thought of. Abuttal against an outside wall was chosen when convenient, but otherwise any small spare space was considered good enough for them, whether it opened from a passage, a bedroom, or even a parlour. The one apartment that did receive some care was the kitchen, with its neighbouring offices. These were always arranged with a certain degree of attention. But with this ended, as a rule, the commendation which could be bestowed on the planning of 17th century homes, judged by the standard of the skilful planner of to-day.

An interesting lecture on "Russian Village Life" was delivered on Monday evening by Mr. W. R. S. Ralston, M.A., at the London Institution, the theatre of which was well filled on the occasion. Among those present were "Stepniak," the author of *Underground Russia*. In his opening remarks the lecturer spoke of his personal acquaintance with Tourgueneff, whose novels were so admirably illustrative of the subject before them. Russian villagers were ignorant of all that was passing outside their own communities; but Englishmen took pains to know something of Russia, its geography, history, its Nihilism, and the regions of Central Asia. But Russian village life was comparatively a sealed book, and some account of it might be deemed worth listening to. For the most part Russian villages were very much alike, although some peculiarities might be found in White Russia, Siberia, and Little Russia. The individual dwelling was then described in detail, and the gray look of the village, the houses of which were drawn up in straight lines on each side of the main street, which resembled a muddy ditch between them. The village was dull and lifeless except on festivals or meetings. The men were good-looking and apt to live long, but the women were mostly ill-favoured, and the mortality among children was most fearful. The villagers had not too much to eat, and the men drank a sort of Russian whisky, called *vodka*, so that drunkenness was universal and wife-beating common among them. On the sorrows of Russian women the native writers were quoted, as well as popular proverbs. Such were the men and women of a Russian village, simple, uncultured, obeying their Church, but extravagantly superstitious, so that, for instance, the old Slav gods were Christianised, and were seen peering beneath the thin varnish of the later faith. Amid all their veneration for their Church they treated their priesthood with utter contempt. Passing from individuals to family and the commune, the lecturer described the Russian household of the old type before the great change wrought by the emancipation of the serfs. That was a sweeping revolution. But both before and after it the commune, or Mir, as it was termed, was a very democratic one. Its functions, especially in the distribution of the land, were described. There were cases in which Lynch-law was resorted to, although for the most part the sentences were very mild. The yearly course of life, with its round of festivals—Christmastide, the Epiphany blessing of corn and cattle, the blessing of the cows in February, the welcome to spring in March, the Easter, Ascension Day, and the Whitsuntide solemnities—was traced. An account of harvest feasts, wedding and funeral customs, and the like followed, and brought the lecture to a close.

Some changes have been introduced into the French Salon. They are not very material, for the most part having reference merely to the dates for sending in pictures and sculpture and to arrangements for varnishing and removal. But the authorities have found it necessary to lay down a rule to be observed under conditions that a few years ago would have seemed impossible of occurring. It has happened that painters disappointed with the position assigned to their works and not permitted to exercise the option of removing them have voluntarily defaced or destroyed them. In the future works so "deteriorated, from whatever motive, by the artist himself voluntarily" shall be retained in the position assigned to them, and the artist so offending may be temporarily deprived of his right of exhibiting.

At a recent meeting of the Geological Society an interesting paper on the "Results of Recent Researches in some Bone-caves in North Wales" (Fynnon Beuno and Cae Gwyn), was read by Mr. H. Hicks, F.R.S. The paper contained the results of researches carried on in these caverns in the summers of 1883, 1884, and 1885 by Mr. E. Bouverie Luxmoore, of St. Asaph, and the author. The enormous collection of bones belonging to the now extinct animals of Pleistocene age obtained had been submitted for examination to Mr. W. Davies, F.G.S., and afterwards distributed to various museums. Several well-worked flint implements were also discovered in association with the bones. The following are the conclusions arrived at by the author, from the facts obtained during the explorations:—That abundant evidence has been furnished to show that the caverns had been occupied by hyænas, and possibly by other beast of prey, as dens, into which portions of carcasses of various animals had been conveyed in Pleistocene times. The very great abundance of some animals, such as the rhinoceros, horse, and reindeer, and the frequent presence of bones belonging to young animals, proved that the plain of the Vale of Clwyd, with that extending northward under the Irish Sea, must have formed a favourite feeding-ground even at that time. The flint implements and worked bones showed also that man was contemporary with these animals. The facts, perhaps, however, of greatest importance made out during these researches are those which bear on some questions of physical geology in regard to this area, which hitherto have been shrouded more of less in doubt. The views on the physical conditions in Pleistocene times of the areas in North Wales in which these and the other bone-caverns occur, so ably put forward by Sir A. Ramsay, appeared to the author to be strongly supported by the results obtained in these explorations. The ravine in which the caverns occur must have been scooped out previous to the deposition in it of the glacial sands and boulder-clays. This sand and clay, there seems good evidence to show, must have filled up the ravine to a height above the entrances to the caverns, and such sands and clays are now found at some points to completely fill up the caverns. How, then, did these sands and clays get into the caverns? Were they forced in through the entrances by marine action or by a glacier filling the valley? Or were they conveyed in subsequent to the deposition of the boulder-clay in the valley and surrounding area? The position of the caverns in an escarpment of limestone, at the end of a ridge of these rocks, with a sharp fall on either side, prohibits the idea that the material could have been washed in from the higher ground, as has been suggested by some in the case of other caverns, if it had anything like its present configuration. Moreover, there is scarcely any deposit now visible upon the limestone ridge, and there is no certainty that there ever was deposited there any great thickness of such a clay as that now found in the caverns. The general position also of the bones in some of the tunnels seems to indicate clearly that the force which broke up the stalagmite floor, in some places ten to twelve inches thick, and stalactites six to eight inches across, which thrust many of the large and heavy bones into fissures high up in the caverns and placed them at all angles in the deposit, must have acted from the entrance inwards, and the only force which seems to meet these conditions is marine action. The following seem to the author to be the changes indicated by the deposits. The lowest in the caverns, consisting almost entirely of local materials, must have been introduced by a river which flowed in the valley at a very much higher level than does the little stream at present. Gradually, as the valley was being excavated, and the caverns were above the reach of floods, hyænas and other beasts of prey occupied them, and conveyed the remains of other animals into them. Man also must have been present at some part of this period. Gradually the land became depressed, the animals disappeared, stalagmite was formed, and the sea at last entered the caverns, filling them up with sand and pebbles, and burying also the remains not washed out. Floating ice deposited in this sea the fragments of rocks derived from northern sources, and these became mixed with local rocks and clays brought down from surrounding areas. The greater part of the boulder-clay in the Vale of Clwyd was probably deposited as the land was being raised out of this Mid-Glacial sea. During the process of elevation the caverns became again disturbed by marine action and the upper fine reddish loam and the laminated clays were deposited. It seemed to the author impossible to avoid the conclusion that these caverns must have been submerged, and afterwards elevated to their present height of about 400ft. above the level of the sea, since they were occupied by Palæolithic man and the Pleistocene animals.

On Saturday the Sub-Committee of the Clapham Burial Board, who are the custodians of the graveyard of the old parish church of St. Paul's, met the solicitors of the lords of the manor in order to confer as to the removal of some monumental marbles of considerable archæological interest which have recently been discovered in the graveyard. In consequence of a vault falling in, the Burial Board made some excavations, and in so doing discovered these valuable marbles, which consist of the life-size figures, two of them recumbent, and the other three seated, of Sir Richard Atkins, Knight and Bart., his wife, son, and two daughters. They are cut from Carrara marble, and date from 1661, having been on the east wall of the old church, which was pulled down many years ago.

It is an ominous fact that Parliaments which have met in January have not, as a rule, been long-lived. Since 1510 there have been twelve meetings of new Parliaments in January. The first of these Parliaments—namely, that which met on the 21st of January, 1510—came to an untimely end within six weeks of its birth, being dissolved on the 23rd of the following month. The next January Parliament met on the 16th of that month in 1541, and was dissolved on the 29th of March, 1544. A painfully short-lived Parliament met on the 20th of January, 1558, and was dissolved on the 17th of November of the same year. Even less fortunate still was a Parliament that assembled on the 25th of January, 1559, and was dissolved on the 8th of May following, having lived less than four months. On the 12th of January, 1563, a Parliament met which managed to survive nearly four years, lasting until the 2nd of January, 1567. In 1621 Parliament met on the 30th of January, and was dissolved on the 6th of January, 1622—lasting less than one year. A "Commonwealth" Parliament, which met on the 27th of January, 1659, came to grief in less than three months, being dissolved on the 22nd of April of the same year. On the 22nd of January, 1689, Parliament met, and was dissolved on the 6th of February, 1690. The Parliament that met on the 28th of January, 1728, was exceptionally fortunate. It lasted until the 18th of April, 1734; and the same good luck attended the Parliament that assembled on the 14th of January, 1735, and survived until the 28th of April, 1741. These two are the longest-lived January Parliaments on record. The Parliament that met on the 14th of January, 1819, was dissolved on the 29th of February, 1820. In 1833 the Parliament which met on the 29th of January was dissolved on the 30th of December, 1834.

Theatres.

Mr. Wills's version of *Faust* was produced for the first time at the Lyceum on Saturday, and was pronounced a complete success by the large and exceptionally representative audience favoured enough to be present. Each succeeding act was rapturously received; allowance was made for a slip, rare in Lyceum management, by which a series of promised illuminations were unrealised; and the principal actors were summoned again and again to receive applause warmer than the public often accords. The production, meanwhile, was worthy of its reception. As a translation of *Faust*, it is inferior, perhaps, to previous adaptations; as a poem, founded upon *Faust*, striving to popularise, and in part to sentimentalise the great drama, and in so doing developing Mr. Wills's highest poetical capacity, it can scarcely be criticised until the opportunity is afforded of reading and studying the words. As a spectacular presentation, illustrated by all that is best in the sisterhood of arts, and furnishing opportunity for much eminently fine acting, it cannot easily be too warmly commended. The scenes presented are admirable throughout, and in some cases marvellous. Most popular of all is, of course, the summit of the Brocken, in which the effect of the obscene creatures flitting on bat-like wings through the air, the noise of the infernal revels, and the temporary illumination of pandemonium, are indescribable. Not less good in the imaginative portion of the scenery is the species of ladder of linked angels, by the aid of which Margaret, redeemed and purified, is to reach the abode of light. Admirable in a quite different way are the view of St. Lorenz-platz, with the representation of the great church, recognisable in almost every detail—a marvel of stage realisation—and that of the interior of the building, with Margaret vainly striving to resist the murderous suggestions which, even while she attempts to pray, the fiend pours into her ear. On the whole the characters are fairly played. Mr. Irving, as Mephistopheles, presents the character to the life, and it may be fairly said that a better Mephistopheles has not been seen in England, while it is not easy to believe that a better has apppeared in Germany. The Margaret of Miss Ellen Terry is also a singularly fine performance. Mr. Conway is a superb looking Faust. Mrs. Stirling's Martha has the breadth of style of which that accomplished actress is possessed. In the character of Valentine, who appears in one short scene, Mr. Alexander contrives to obtain a firm hold upon the public. How strong is the general cast is shown in the fact that artists such as Mr. Henry Howe, Mr. Mead, Miss L. Payne, and others of scarcely less note have parts which scarcely call for mention. The accessories, musical and other, are excellent, and the use of the electric light, especially in the case of the combat between Faust and Valentine, when the sword of Mephistopheles interferes, is very striking.

Kenilworth, a new fairy burlesque-extravaganza in three acts and eight tableaux, by Messrs. Reece and Farnie, was produced at the Avenue on Saturday evening with a cast which includes several of the most popular performers. This latest version of Sir Walter Scott's novel is by no means wanting in humorous suggestion, and is likely to prove a popular success during the coming holidays. As a parody it suffers from the fact that its shafts are not aimed at any particular performance fresh in the public recollection, but perhaps after all this is no great matter in a burlesque extravaganza. Miss Linden's mimicry of Miss Mary Anderson as Galatea was admirable. Miss Cameron sings and acts charmingly as the Earl of Leicester. Mr. Roberts, as Varney, amuses as usual by his droll singing and his odd tricks and antics; and Mr. Lonnen wins much favour by his dancing in the character of Tony Foster. The dances and choruses were well sung, and the spectacular attractions of the burlesque, including the tasteful costumes by M. Alias, and the beautiful new scenery by Mr. T. E. Ryan and other artists, won general admiration; while the burlesque was altogether favourably received that it may be expected to run for a long time to come.

The Parsee Victoria Dramatic Company of Bombay made their *début* in England at the Gaiety on Saturday evening. Their native mode of representation has been strictly adhered to, even to the smallest details, and the selection from their repertory is efficiently wide and varied to give to the uninitiated as good a notion of the present state of the drama in India as could well be obtained in the course of a single evening. In the first item in the programme, a musical piece called *Solomon's Sword*, a ruined gamester sells himself for unlimited wealth to the Evil One, whose bidding he does until frustrated in a number of nefarious schemes by a hero armed with the magic sword of Solomon. The sword is the gift of an angel, who comes up through a trap-door, and in presenting it to the hero delivers himself, in what is probably intended to be an impressive manner, of a song set to the tune of a ditty familiar in the streets of London. As for the singing by the members of the company, it has a curiously nasal sound; while their invariable rule at the end of a stanza, is to close the mouth and conclude with a humming noise. The *Fancy Ball*, which followed *Solomon's Sword*, is a slight pantomimic sketch depicting the troubles of a ticket-collector at a grand dress-ball. This, unlike the other productions, was given in English, although only one of the performers, Mr. Moonshee, was really intelligible. Mr. Moonsaee appears to be a clever low comedian, the fun of whose acting is heightened by his curiously plain broken English. *Shakuntala*, of which a portion was given, is said to be probably the oldest play in existence. Not much complexity or ingenuity of intrigue could be expected from a piece belonging to so early an artistic period. The female parts are in each selection played by young men, the only female performers being three dancers, who in the *Fancy Ball* wear bangles on their ankles and rattle them in a slow and measured dance, in which the body remains perfectly rigid. The entertainment was on Monday transferred to the Opera Comique.

The Empire, under the management of Mr. C. de Chastelain, opened on Monday night for the holiday season with a bill composed of comic opera and a "military pantomime and ballet." *Billee Taylor*, which work was until recently running at the Gaiety, where it had by no means worn its welcome threadbare, is the title of the comic opera. Some of the Gaiety cast—Messrs. Arnold Breeden, George Honey, and J. H. Jarvis—are present to resume their impersonations of the hero, Crab, and Sir Mincing Lane; while Mdlle. De Laporte replaces Miss Marion Hood as Phœbe; Miss Kate Chard is the Arabella; Miss Emily Miller the Eliza Dubsey; Mr. Ferrari the Captain Felix Flapper; and Mr. J. L. Shine the Ben Barnacle. The performance of the Boisset troupe of gymnast-pantomimists, in the sketch called *Hurly-Burly*, wants compressing into half its present length; while any attempt to infuse dramatic interest into the skit is disastrous.

A new military ballet, entitled *Le Bivouac*, was produced at the Alhambra on Monday, in which the inventive skill of Mons. Hansen has been employed with remarkable success. The corps of ballerines, instead of appearing in the familiar dresses of gauzy material, are decked out in brilliant military costumes, with small arms and swords to match, so that the stage is filled with representatives of British Grenadiers, Highlanders, and sailors, besides those of the armies of foreign Powers. One of the prettiest scenes is that of the "Reception of Nations," in which each foreign contingent marches forward bearing the national colour, which is duly saluted by the British regiments. Here the grouping and evolutions of various contingents are admirable, and form a stage picture as dazzling to the eye as it is novel and effective. Characteristic dances are introduced at intervals, among the most popular being a Scotch reel, and a sailor's hornpipe, both of which were capitally danced and enthusiastically applauded. Not the least effective part of the entertainment is the bayonet exercise by the riflemen, who handled their weapons with a skill worthy of the British arms; and the whole concludes with an exciting sham fight.

The Crystal Palace Pantomime was produced on Tuesday, and it must at once be conceded that the fascinating subject of *Cinderella*, which Mr. Augustus Harris has chosen, has been cleverly worked out by Mr. Burnand; while Mr. Charles Harris as stage-manager, the Sisters Mario, Mr. John D'Auban, and and Miss Emma D'Auban as principal performers, and Mr. Oscar Barrett (who is so well versed in such work) for the musical details, have each ably assisted him in placing upon the stage a bright and lively entertainment that every parent should make it a duty to include in the list of amusements to be visited whilst the children are "home for the holidays." It is quite needless to say that the pantomime has been produced in the most liberal and complete manner. All the exterior scenes are so well painted that it is not easy to single out one deserving of special praise above the others. The excellent efforts of the Sisters Mario, the graceful dancing of Miss Emma D'Auban, the piquancy of Miss Lilian Francis, and the genuine fun of Mr. D'Auban, caused the pantomime to pass off without a hitch, while the enthusiasm with which it was received indicates that *Cinderella* will be quite as great a favourite in her new quarters as she has ever been elsewhere.

Messrs. Maskelyne and Cooke's new bill of fare for the winter season includes Mr. Charles Bertram, the clever sleight-of-hand artist, Zoe, and an exhibition of mental telegraphy. A very diverting ventriloquial interlude by Mr. H. Verne, a performance on the automatic orchestra by Mr. Charles Mellon, and that old favourite, *Will, the Witch, and the Watchman* with some new features, while the audience are as puzzled as ever to say how the different characters get into and out of the cabinet, and the oak chest. There is no flagging in the entertainment, from beginning to end, and whether for old people or young, it may be safely prescribed as a sovereign specific for that complaint of *ennui* which even at Christmas time is not altogether unknown.

CITY CHURCHES.

We gladly reprint the following, letter on which we have commented in our leading columns:—

Sir,—A good deal has been said of late about desecration. Will you allow me to point out that Bishop Temple proposes to desecrate (under the provisions of the Union of Benefices Act) four churches—viz., St. Catherine Coleman, Fenchurch-street, St. Olave, Old Jewry, St. Thomas, in the Liberty of the Rolls, and Holy Trinity, Minories? The schemes for the desecration of the three first were sanctioned by the late Bishop of London, but the present Bishop proceeds with them, and he himself has instituted a commission to obtain desecration of the fourth. If the schemes are carried out the consecrated sites of the churches and the materials will be sold by private tender or public auction to the highest bidder, and the remains of a great number of the dead interred within the walls of St. Catherine Coleman, St. Olave, Jewry, and Holy Trinity, Minories, will be carted away to some cemetery. Some of the ancestors of the Earl of Dartmouth are buried in the last-named church. I hope Bishops and other Churchmen who have spoken so vigorously against desecration by Liberationists will now use their influence to prevent these revolting schemes being carried out. It was held by Mr. Justice Field, in "Regina *v.* Jacobson," that disturbance of the dead was contrary to decency and public morality, and though I am sure that the late Bishop was and the present Bishop is actuated by the best of motives, I feel that this mode of raising money for Church purposes is dangerous as well as undesirable, and trust that it may be abandoned. St. Catherine Coleman Church has an excellent congregation and good parochial organisation. St. Olave, Jewry, is full every Wednesday since the coming of the new lecturer. It labours under the great disadvantage of having no rector, as it has been vacant for three years, the present Lord Chancellor (the patron), like his predecessor, refusing to appoint.

I ought to add that I believe the Bishop has expressed some opinion that the scheme as regards St. Catherine Coleman will fall to the ground in consequence of the great opposition from the parishioners, but his Lordship has made no public announcement to that effect, so that the desecration is still to be dreaded.

I beg to remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
Henry Wright, Hon. Sec. of the City Church and Churchyard Protection Society.
National Liberal Club, S. W., Dec. 15.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. F. S. Baines, to Perpetual Curacy of St. Cuthbert's, Hunslet, Leeds. Patron, the Bishop of Ripon.

Rev. A. A. Barratt, to Vicarage of Holy Trinity, Claygate.

Rev. J. P. A. Bower, to be Licensed Missioner for the Diocese of Gloucester and Bristol.

Rev. E. L. Butcher, Vicar of St. Thomas's, South Shields, to Rectory of Walviston. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Durham.

Rev. G. H. Davies, Llanlleyan, to Vicarage of Newmarket, Flint. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

Rev. C. N. Edginton, Rector of Hanwell, Middlesex, to Vicarage of Wellesbourne, Warwick. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

Rev. R. Ellis, Curate of Llangollen, to Rectory of Bettws-Gwerfilgoch. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

Rev. W. A. W. Evans, Curate-in-Charge of Harrowden, to Rectory of Llandegveth. Patrons, Mrs. W. A. Williams and Mr. Rowland Addams Williams.

Rev. Canon Fielden, Rector of Bedlington, to be Rural Dean of Wirral.

Rev. W. H. Fisher, Curate of St. Andrew's, Montpellier, to be Incumbent of Ashton Gate, Bristol.

Rev. W. J. Foxell, Head Master of Amersham Grammar-school, to be Minor Canon of Canterbury Cathedral.

Rev. W. W. Garry, to be Chaplain to the Seamen's Mission, Newport.

Rev. T. Graham, Vicar of St. Paul's, Ballspond, Islington, to Vicarage of St. Bride's, Liverpool.

Rev. G. A. Grenside, Curate, to Rectory of Thorpe Bassett.

Rev. W. E. Houldley, to Rectory of Etherly, Durham. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. W. Jones, Rector of Bettws-Gwerfilgoch, to Vicarage of St. John's, Trofarth, Denbigh. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

Rev. W. R. Jones, to Vicarage of Hyssington-with-Sarnel.

Rev. J. Kemp, Vicar of Burstall, to be Honorary Canon in Ripon Cathedral.

Rev. G. Kington, Vicar of Spondon, Derby, to Vicarage of St. James's, Taunton. Patrons, the Simeon Trustees.

Rev. A. G. Lane, to Vicarage of Temple Guiting. Patron, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol.

Rev. E. C. Lowndes, to be Minor Canon of Chester Cathedral.

Rev. V. T. T. Orgill, Second Master of Ludlow Grammar-school, to Vicarage of Ludford.

Rev. J. B. Pattison, Vicar of Brierfield, to Vicarage of Stockingford. Patron, the Vicar of Nuneaton.

Rev. W. Rees, Curate of Wrexham, to Perpetual Curacy of Berse Drelincourt. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph.

Rev. G. Robinson, Senior Curate of Holy Trinity, Haverstock-hill, to be Chaplain of the French Hospital, Victoria-park, and Senior Curate of South Hackney Parish Church.

Rev. W. Russell, Minor Canon, to be Succentor of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Rev. J. Sharpe, Incumbent of Horbury, to be Sixth Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral.

Rev. H. A. Thorne, late Curate of Birchington, Thanet, to be Licensed to Preach and Officiate generally in the Diocese of Canterbury.

Rev. J. R. Washbourn, Master of the College School, Gloucester, to Rectory of Rudford. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester.

Rev. R. G. Wood, Head Master of Kirby Ravensworth Grammar-school, Richmond, Yorks, to be Public Preacher in the Diocese of Ripon.

Rev. J. T. Wordsworth, to be Missions to Seamen Chaplain, Cardiff Docks.

Licences to Curacies by the Bishop of Worcester.—Revs. John Arbuckle, to St. Helen's, Auckland; Frederick Nugent Eden, M.A., to St. James's, West Hartlepool; Reginald Cecil George, B.A., to Venerable Bede, Monkwearmouth; Francis Lea Milward, B.A., to Stockton-on-Tees; James Whitehead Pattison, to Seaton Carew; Joseph Colling Pyper, M.A., to St. Andrew's, Auckland; Edwin Sutton, M.A., to St. Andrew's, Auckland.

Licences to Curacies by the Bishop of Ripon.—Revs. Frederick Henry John Barham, B.A., to Holy Trinity, Bingley; George Frederick Jackson, B.A., to Snape Castle Chaplaincy; Thomas Kirkpatrick, to Baildon; John Michael, M.A., to Thornhill Lees; Joseph Prime, B.A., to Kirklington; Charles Reeder, to St. Mary's, Leeds; John Thomas Smith, to Garforth.

Licences to Curacies by the Bishop of Durham.—Revs. Charles Harrison, to Holy Trinity, Bordesley; Josiah Wedgwood, to the Lickey; Joshua John Case, to Nuneaton.

OBITUARY.

Dec. 14, at Aberford Vicarage, Leeds, Charles Page Eden, M.A., Vicar of Aberford, Proctor in Convocation, and Canon of York, aged 73.

Dec. 14, at the Vicarage, the Rev. Charles King, M.A., Hon. Canon of Salisbury Cathedral, and for upwards of thirty-five years Vicar of Stratford-sub-Castle, near Salisbury.

Dec. 20, at 2, Higher Summerlands, Exeter, the Rev. Robert Ellis, B.D., formerly Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, aged 65.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE

Galignani prints the following letter from Bishop Titcomb to Mr. Philip Serle, of Paris:—"Dear Mr. Serle—The enclosed copy of Sir William Jenner's letter is a terrible missive to send you. I scarcely know where I am. It is so sudden, so dreadful. I can only feel that I have been killing myself with overwork without knowing it. But I cannot write; I am too distressed, for I have only just returned from Sir W. Jenner:"—

63, *Brook-Street, Grosvenor-square, Dec.* 14.

I have to-day carefully examined the Right Rev. Bishop Titcomb as to the state of his health, and am of opinion that he cannot continue his present laborious duties without the greatest risk to his life.

William Jenner, M.D.

The Rev. P. R. Atkinson, Archdeacon of Surrey, and formerly Vicar of Dorking, has been presented by his late parishioners with an illuminated address, setting forth the good work accomplished by him in the parish during the ten years of his incumbency, and a purse of £150.

The Bishop of Ripon has signified his intention of conferring honorary canonries in the Cathedral church of Ripon on the Rev. J. Kemp, M.A., Vicar of Birstall and clerical editor of the *Ripon Diocesan Calendar*, and on the Rev. J. Sharp, M.A., Incumbent of Horbury.

The Bishop of Bedford on Monday opened a new mission church dedicated to St. Alban, in connection with St. Saviour's Church, Poplar. The building has been erected at a total cost of £2,000 from the designs of the architect, Mr. Brett A. Elphicke. Some six months since a bazaar was opened at Poplar Townhall by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, when a sum exceeding £300 was obtained towards the building fund.

Among the candidates admitted to the diaconate at the Bishop of London's ordination in St. Paul's on Sunday was Mr. Charles Mackeson. He was afterwards licensed by the Bishop to the curacy of St. Saviour's, South Hampstead, where since 1878 he has acted as a lay reader.

The Rev. Thomas Graham, formerly curate at St. Margaret's, Westminster, and who has been vicar of the parish church of St. Paul's, Canonbury, North London, since 1881, has accepted the perpetual curacy of St. Bride's, Liverpool.

A stained-glass window has been placed in the chancel of Trumpington Church in memory of the late Professor Fawcett. The window was subscribed for by friends of Mr. Fawcett, and overlooks his grave. A plain marble tomb covers the latter, and has upon it the simple, though characteristic inscription, "Say to the people that they go forward."

From January 3 to 10, 1886, the annual week of united prayer, organised by the Evangelical Alliance through the British and its various foreign branches, will be observed all over the world. This movement is continually growing in extent, and there is now scarcely a country where it is not observed, from the northern limits of Europe to the most southerly points of Africa; and again from the distant realms of China and Japan to the West Indies, as well as in the Australian and Pacific groups of islands, wherever Christians are settled. The subjects agreed upon include thanksgiving, prayer for the Church and family, for home and foreign missions, for nations and Governments, and for the Christian life.

The Rev. Robert Ellis, B.D., formerly Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, died on Sunday, at Exeter, aged 65 years. The deceased gentleman graduated at St. John's College as Fifth Wrangler in 1840. Mr. Ellis was the author, *inter alia*, of *A Treatise on Hannibal's Passage of the Alps, Ancient Routes between Italy and Gaul*, and *The Asiatic Affinities of the Old Italians*.

The Rev. Dr. Trevor, writing to the *Times* on "Church Reform," says:—

"I hope you will allow one who has been fifty years in orders, with a very varied experience in town and country, to assure you that there is more in Mr. Erskine Clarke's objection than you seem to think. Certainly the desired test cannot be found in baptism, since all Churches and sects (except Quakers) baptise, and all but Anabaptists and Neo-Romanists admit the baptism of others. In country villages it is very common for poor persons with no thought of separating from the Church to have a child baptised at chapel, because there is no bother—*i.e.*, no need of sponsors and a tea party. The communicant test, if it were either feasible or desirable to revive it, would be equally ineffectual. Neither is there any overt act short of suicide by which a baptised person can separate himself from the communion of the National Church. Some recent statutes try to meet the difficulty by requiring a declaration that the person is *bonâ fide* a member of the Church of England; but this must be true, in fact, before it can be truly affirmed—the *bonâ fide* is merely his own opinion. Lord Penzance has made such a declaration, but any Roman Catholic or Nonconformist Judge, who is baptised and not excommunicated, might do the same, if he chose, with perfect truth. A parishioner of mine, who has not attended the church for years, and preaches in the Wesleyan chapel, signed a declaration that he was a member of the Established Church (with my entire consent) in order to qualify for the school committee. For Diocesan Conferences, Central Council, and the proposed Lay House of Convocation there may be any or no test, according to the taste and pleasure of the makers, simply because they have no sort of *status* or function either in Church or State, and that is the reason why it is hard to get laymen to attend. It would be a very different thing if their resolutions had any binding effect on other people. Such authority could only be obtained from Parliament, and Parliament is not likely to narrow the doors of the Established Church. In the parishes the lay representation in vestry has been disestablished and disendowed by the abolition of Church rates; it existed only by the power of the purse. To create a new council on the basis of voluntary subscription would be to reduce the parish church to a proprietary chapel, and to substitute the Congregational discipline for our parochial and Episcopal organisation."

The Rev. Charles King, M.A., Honorary Canon of Salisbury and vicar of Stratford-sub-Castle, near

Salisbury, died on the 14th inst. He graduated at Magdalen College, Oxford, taking his Bachelor's degree as a fourth class *in Literis Humanioribus* in 1831, and proceeding M.A. in due course. He was ordained deacon in 1834, and admitted to priests' orders in the following year by the Bishop of Oxford. Mr. King was chaplain of Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1834-5, Priest-Vicar of Salisbury Cathedral from 1835 till 1879, Procurator to the vicars from 1846 to 1869, and was appointed vicar of Stratford-sub-Castle, in the diocese of Salisbury, in 1852. He had held the Prebendal Stall of Coombe and Harnham in Salisbury Cathedral since 1869.

A meeting of the Court of Assistants of the Sons of the Clergy was held on Saturday at the Corporation House, Bloomsbury-place, for the distribution of the Christmas and other benefactions to poor clergymen, and for the consideration of a number of applications presented by Mr. Paget Bowman, the registrar, for aid towards the education and start in life of clergy children, whether orphans or not. Mr. Allcroft, senior treasurer, was in the chair. In every approved case a grant was made, but the amount was in many instances inadequate to the needs of the applicant, and it was evident how urgent is the want of more efficient aid from Churchmen to the necessities of the poorer clergy. The fact that much of of the Corporation property consists of land, the rents of which have seriously diminished of late, was urged as giving additional weight to the importance of its obtaining an increased measure of support.

The Bishop of Down has received £500 from Mr. Conway Dobbs, of Castle Dobbs, for the purchase of a steam mission vessel for the service of the Missions to Seamen Chaplain in boarding the ships sheltering in the outer roadsteads of Belfast Lough. The present mission vessel is found to be of too small horse-power to stem the winds and waves of the winter season, and is also otherwise defective. The crews benefited by the Missions to Seamen's ministrations in this estuary do not, as a rule, belong to Belfast itself, but are sailors of all nations; so that the ecclesiastical hospitality thus provided is chiefly for strangers to the port, driven in by contrary or strong winds, many of whom are always present in ships anchoring in Belfast Lough.

A meeting of the committee appointed to consider the needs of the York parishes was held last week in the Church Institute, York, for the purpose of receiving a statement from the Archbishop of York as to the progress which had been made with the scheme drawn up by the committee, which had received the approval of his Grace. The Archbishop presided, and there were also present the Ven. Archdeacon Crosthwaite, the Rev. Canon Residentiary Blunt, the Ven. Archdeacon Watkins, and the chief clergy and laity of the city. His Grace opened his remarks by explaining that he had taken no step in the scheme which had been formulated without first obtaining the approval of that committee, and it had now become his pleasure to report the carrying out of a portion of the undertaking. As they would be already aware, recommendations had been carried out with regard to three parishes, involving the union of St. Michael's, Spurriergate, with St. Mary's, Castlegate; St. Crux with All Saints, Pavement; and St. Mary's, Bishophill Junior, with St. Mary's, Bishophill Senior. There was, however, a fourth scheme now in process of completion—namely, the affiliation of Christ Church with St. Sampson's. There could be no doubt that what had been already accomplished had met with the approval of not only the parishioners but the citizens generally, nor could there be any question that what had been done was for the advantage of the Church. Nevertheless, promoters of such work were certain to meet with the opposition of a certain number of persons unacquainted with local requirements; but they (the committee) could, his Grace thought, afford to ignore the misrepresentations respecting their work which had been so extensively circulated, being all agreed as to the advantage of the changes they had effected. His Grace then expressed his deep sense of the kind support he had received from the committee generally, and said the schemes which they had already carried out were comparatively easy of accomplishment, but he was now prepared to proceed with some more difficult portion of the undertaking, feeling quite sure that he would continue to receive as large an amount of support as had been accorded to him in the past. Resolutions were passed approving the statement of the Archbishop, and requesting him to bring the scheme before the attention of the Church people of York.

In connection with the singular mistake recently made in attributing the design and building of St. Martin's Church to Sir Christopher Wren instead of to James Gibbs, it will be of interest to know that a remarkably fine bust of Gibbs has lately been presented to the church by Mr. Boore, of the Strand, who has resided many years within sound of the church bells. The bust is the work of Rysbrach, and is incribed "Jac. Gibbs, arch.; J. M. Rysbrach fecit, 1726." It was no doubt modelled from the life, and the date shows it was done to commemorate the completion of the church in that year. Rysbrach survived nearly twenty years after the death of Gibbs. The bust, which is a work well worthy of his chisel, was purchased in a sale at Christie's by Mr. Boore. James Gibbs was something more than an able architect. He was M.A. of Marischal College, Aberdeen, his native place, and became a Fellow of the Royal Society. He travelled in Holland and Italy in the study of his profession, and besides this church, which is especially admired for its portico, he built St. Mary-le-Strand in 1717, the steeple of St. Clement Danes, the quadrangle of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and the Radcliffe Library, Oxford, of which he holds the plans in the portrait of him in the National Portrait Gallery, by J. Williams, the painter of another portrait of him in the Bodleian Library. Rysbrach, who was a sort of rival of Roubiliac, the Frenchman, who also settled in London, died in 1770, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Marylebone, High-street (the mother church), a church little known now, but where several artists eminent in their day lie buried, and which, to some at least, must be a place of interest, for here Byron was christened March 1, 1788; and Horatia Nelson Thompson, May 13, 1803, Nelson's daughter by Lady Hamilton.

Referring to the subject of Church Reforms the *Saturday Review* says:—"The highly respectable clergymen who have signed a memorial to the two Archbishops may possibly have reasons of their own for their choice of a most infelicitous occasion. At the close of a political contest in which the Nonconformists have done their utmost to discredit and injure the Established Church, the memorialists hasten to make a gratuitous admission of the justice of some of their charges. A vague proposal for the approximate equalisation of clerical incomes may be plausible; but it points to the reduction of the clergy to a dead level, if not of poverty, at least of insufficient income. It is not necessary to contend that all parts of the memorial are founded upon erroneous assumptions. The fundamental objection to the movement is that it exposes to unfriendly eyes the supposed defects of the Established Church, without hope of providing any practical remedy. Some of those who have signed the memorial, who are men of the world as well as ornaments of the Church, might have been expected to understand that the enemies of the Establishment dislike it not for its real or imaginary imperfections, but on account of the peculiarities which give it an inestimable value. A clerical body, on the whole liberally educated, and of refined social habits, is odious to its enemies, not because it may include half a dozen criminous clerks, but because it retains its ancient connection with the higher classes, and because it is but indirectly dependent on popular control. Even if there is a difference of opinion on some of the issues which are raised in the memorial, there can be little doubt that its publication at the present moment is at least inopportune. The Act of Uniformity might probably be amended with advantage, but it is imprudent to expect the House of Commons to alter its provisions without making further changes which would not be acceptable to the memorialists.

A meeting to hear an account of the work of the Committee for Special Religious Services in Theatres, Halls, and Mission Rooms, took place on Friday evening at 21, Portman-square, on the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. George Hanbury. The former, who presided, alluded to the fact that the late Earl of Shaftesbury was chairman of the committee and took deep interest in its work, which began twenty-seven years ago. At that time almost every Christian had a feeling that a theatre was the last place where the Gospel could be preached. Such ideas had, however, been entirely overcome, and the work was now supported by both clergy and ministers. It was very difficult to estimate the results, as the people who attended the services were continually being scattered, but there were numerous conversions, and without doubt a great work was being done among people who would never have heard the word of God but for these services. The Rev. T. C. Udall, deputation secretary, said that the committee were using in London fourteen public halls and theatres, and required no less than £3,000 a year. As for the congregations, they were composed of people who did not feel at home in churches and chapels, their clothes in many cases being a complete obstacle to their attendance at such places. Mr. J. E. Jack, one of the Committee's preachers, gave an encouraging account of the services in theatres and public halls, but pointed out with regret that through want of funds they had been discontinued in the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton. Mr. F. A. Bevan spoke of the necessity for mission-rooms, of which twenty-six were opened or kept open in London by means of money grants from the Committee. The Rev. Dr. D. Fraser, the Rev. N. Sherbrooke, and Mr. H. Ehrlich having addressed the meeting, the Secretary (Mr. C M. Sawell) moved a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hanbury; and referring to a scheme for the erection of halls in memory of the late Earl of Shaftesbury, and, in connection with the Committee, said the first of these buildings was being put up at Gibraltar-walk, Bethnal-green. Mr. H. Reid seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

In refutation of the charge that when the agitation was commenced by Joseph Arch in 1872 "the clergy as a rule were on the side of the squire and farmer, and showed but little sympathy for the agricultural labourer," A Conservative Parson writes:—"I believe the sympathies of the clergy are with all classes of their parishioners, low as well as high; but if they are governed by principles of truth and righteousness, they cannot show sympathy with injustice and folly. I regarded at the time, as I regard now, that movement as springing out of ignorance and wickedness—ignorance of the natural laws which regulate the price of work, which can no more be interrupted that you can interfere with the flow of the tide, and wickedness in the falsehood of the allegations as to the amount of wages and the methods used to gain the desired ends. Amongst these was the wholesale vilification of the clergy, who must needs show themselves as the enemies of injustice by whomsoever it is committed, and the vulgar abuse of their office to gratify the *animus* of Nonconformity."

Another correspondent says:—

"It seems to me that a vast amount of sentimental twaddle is being put forth on behalf of the agricultural labourer—and to the discredit of the Church and clergy. Being a country clergyman and well acquainted with the manners and customs of the labouring classes in an agricultural county, I consider myself quite competent to form an opinion upon the subject. Speaking generally, the agricultural labourer has little or nothing to complain of at the hands of the clergy. If, as is very likely, he has met with less sympathy, it is his own fault. As a matter of fact, for some years past, regardless alike of Bible and Church teaching, he has exhibited a growing contempt for all authority—welcomed into the parish most pestilent agitators—listened complacently to their foul attacks on Church and clergy, landlord and farmer alike—greedily accepted and helped to disseminate their slanders and falsehoods. Under such circumstances it could scarcely be expected that the clergy, who should be the representatives of decency and order, should withdraw their sympathies from the employers, and enlist them indefinitely on the side of the employed. I regard as fallacious the proposition that the Church is the 'Church of the poor'—not of the nation at large—of all classes and individuals alike who may be willing to abide by her authority and to accept her ministrations."

The Bishop of Peterborough will introduce the Parish Churches Bill into the House of Lords early in the approaching Session. The preamble sets forth that:—"Whereas, according to the Common Law of this realm, every church in England and Wales is for the free use in common of all parishoners of the parish to which such church belongs, for the purposes of Divine worship according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England; and whereas the rights of the parishoners according to law have for many years past been infringed in many parishes and places by the appropriation of seats and pews to certain of the parishioners to the exclusion of others, and especially of the poorer classes, to the great hindrance of religion, and it is expedient that such Common Law should be declared with a view to its better observance"—Clause 3 enacts that "every parish church in England and Wales is hereby declared to be for the free use in common of all the parishioners for the purposes of Divine worship according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England." There are other clauses saving vested interests and the letting of seats under certain Acts. The rights of the Ordinary over the fabric and the powers of churchwardens to preserve order would also remain untouched. The effect of the Bill would be to declare all churches free, with the exception of those built under special local Acts, which are very few in number, and modern ones possessing legal scales of pew-rents assigned under the Church Building or New Parishes Acts. These two classes of churches number at the outside about 2,000 out of the 15,000 churches in the country.

During the last session of the Convocation of Canterbury a scheme for a House of Laymen as a representative body of Churchmen to consider matters affecting the interests of the Church of England was approved, and the election of this new deliberative assembly is now proceeding in the several dioceses of the Southern Province. Each diocesan conference elects from its lay members a certain number of representatives, and in addition the Archbishop of Canterbury will appoint other laymen of prominence, so that all Church interests may be adequately represented. On Tuesday the Archdeacon of Middlesex (Dr. Hessey), as Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of the London Diocesan Conference, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Thornton and Mr. J. W. B. Riddell, the hon. secretaries, was in attendance at the National Society's rooms, Broad Sanctuary, to receive nominations. The Archdeacon, in opening the proceedings, said that this was the last and most important step in the process of showing their belief that the Church consisted not of clergy only, but of the clergy and laity, and that each part ought to have its due share in its deliberations on matters affecting the Church's welfare. Both the clergy and laity had a common interest, and each ought to have its due proportion of speech under the limitations sanctioned by Holy Scripture and ancient precedent. At the present time, and in the present position of the Church of England, the authoritative voice of the laity was most important. He concluded by asking the lay members of the conference to nominate ten or more candidates. If more than ten candidates were nominated voting papers would be sent out, to be returned either by hand or by post, addressed to the Archdeacon of Middlesex, at the National Society's rooms, Broad Sanctuary, Westminister, so as to reach him before two o'clock on January 12, when the counting of the votes would be begun. Messrs. Cust and Perryman had consented to act as scrutineers. The following, being laymen of the Church of England and members of the London Diocesan Conference, were then duly and separately nominated by a proposer and seconder:—Earl Beauchamp, Lord Halifax (President of the English Church Union), Mr. J. G. Hubbard, M.P., Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., Colonel Makins, M.P., Sir Walter Farquhar, General Maclagan, the Hon. T. Pelham, Dr. Martindale Ward, Mr. W. E. Shipton, Mr. F. Calvert, Q.C., Mr. Martin Tait, Mr. J. Shaw Stewart, Mr. F. Bevan, Mr. Thomas Rutt, Mr. J. P. Smith, Mr. Eugene Stock, Mr. J. W. B. Riddell, Mr. G. A. Spottiswoode, Mr. L. Dibden, Mr. Charles Powell (secretary of the Church of England Working Men's Society), and Mr. G. H. Thomas. The two last named are working-class candidates. The electing body numbers about 400 laymen of the diocese, and each voter can vote for 10 out of the 22 candidates nominated.

WINTER BERRIES.

So intimately associated with legendary lore is our English winter greenery, that its natural interest is apt to be obscured by the traditions surrounding it and the merely decorative uses to which it is put. But only a slight burst of frost is necessary to show that winter vegetation fills a vital place in the economy of the seasons. No inconsiderable number of our most effective evergreens then bear fruit; which, mostly in the form of an insipid or (to us) perhaps injurious berry, is not generally recognised as of this character. Take the pervading but never vulgarised ivy. From the late autumn when the drowsy bees linger over its aromatic blossoms, until the appearance of its grey-green berries, it grows daily more interesting; while, af all verdure proof against the "winter's flaw," the painter could least spare it from the canvas or the poet from his idyl. But not on such terms may the ivy be dismissed. Bacchus and his crew notwithstanding, the ivy is in reality dedicated to the birds. Its currant-like fruit grows all through the winter, and furnishes an abundant food-supply for thrushes, blackbirds, and even pigeons. The smooth black-skinned berries are not fully ripe until the spring; and their appearance at all times is little suggestive of the nourishing food they contain, and which does not appear to be injured by the hardest frosts.

On the other hand, the "haws" of the various thorn trees are occasionally quite destroyed by the rigours of a sustained frost; and the popular idea that an abundant autumn crop is indicative of an approaching hard winter is, of course, a simple superstition. Cowper has said that

> the berry-bearing thorns
> That feed the thrush (whatever some suppose)
> Afford the smaller minstrels no supply;

but "haws" are, in fact, resorted to by widely different families both of soft and hard-billed birds. When ripe the fruit is of a "mealy" character, and it has sometimes been used with advantage for fattening-pigs. Besides the common hawthorn, numerous other varities retain their berries throughout the winter. The "yellow-berried" and "cockspur" thorns are among these; the latter, as well as the "plum-leaved" tree, often keep their foliage until the winter is far advanced. Of quite another description is the "hip," the fruit berry of the brier or common dog rose. The supply of hips is generally much smaller than that of the haws; but the two are invariably coupled in considering the natural food of birds when pressed in winter by frost or drought.

The berries of the holly, as of the mistletoe and laurel, add to the winter's provision, and are perhaps oftener called upon than is commonly imagined. That some birds suffer great hardships when the earth is sealed by frost cannot of course be doubted. No quantity of berries, or even of grain, can compensate for the temporary loss of the endless forms of insect life. But their sufferings are as much due to thirst as to hunger; and as long as the stores of winter berries remain unexhausted they find a fair amount of sustenance. The glutinous berry of the mistletoe yields support to the whole family of the thrushes, and is enjoyed long after the brighter fruitage of the mountain-ash has been consumed. The purple berries of the Portugal laurel, which endure very severe weather, are also greedily eaten by birds, pheasants especially having a well-known liking for these dainties. As the Laureate reminds us in one of his latest poems—"The Flight"—

> The blackthorn blossom fades and falls, and leaves the bitter sloe.

But although this fruit requires a touch of frost to ripen it, it cannot be relied upon by the birds after November. Many other edible berries fall into the same category. They ripen when the autumn tints are at their brightest, but "fade and fall" with lingering flower and leaf. A cheerful little shrub, bearing cheery-like berries, is to be seen just now on every side. It is popularly known as the "winter cherry;" but this is a misnomer. The true winter cherry (*Physalis Alkekengi*) belongs to the great Solanum family, and produces a berry somewhat similar to those of its namesake, but in an entirely different way; the fruit being at first enclosed in a kind of calyx or envelope, which falls off as it ripens. These berries may be eaten with safety; and the Germans, who never tire of cherry sauces, have found a special place for them in their rude *cuisine*.

Of all these berries, as of many others, great use was made by the physicians of old. Ivy-berries were esteemed "sovereign" for the plague; while those of the mistletoe constituted "a singular good remedy of most subtle parts" for a wide range of disorders. Haws were "absolute" for gouty and dropsical affections; and our robust ancestors were asked to prove the "strong faculty" of holly-berries by swallowing a dozen before breakfast.—*St. James's Gazette.*

EASTERN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

One of the chief features of the Indian village now exhibiting in London is, says the *Globe*, the array of tom-toms of various sorts and sizes attached to the stalls, or hanging at the side of the houses ready for use at a moment's notice. The best opportunity of hearing these instruments played is, however, at the dancing performance, when a small orchestra is frequently assembled to do honour to the Nautch girls and the trained snakes. The volume of sound produced by thumping these small drums with the fingers is astonishing to the European auditor, and the fact that there is a decided tone in each of them seems to be attested by the trouble which its owner takes to adjust the bands and trimmings on its outside so as to bring it into accord with the other instruments to be played at the same time. The tom-tom is, of course, by no means the only sort of drum known in Asia. There is in the first place the *dawool*, or bass drum, which is almost as wide as ours, but not so deep. It is played with two sticks, the upper one of which has only one face to it instead of being round, and has a curved back on the side away from the drum, while the other is a long, thin, tapering rod, held in the left hand, and applied with a flat blow along the whole length of the lower surface. A still more curious production of the East is the *darabukkeh* used by the Arabs, which is much larger at one end than at the other, and partly funnel-shaped, resembling the top of an engine chimney on the Great Western line. The frame of this is usually made of pottery, and it is held under the left arm, so that it can be struck alternately on either side by the four fingers of one or other hand. The *dawool* and the hautboy are, or were, the common instruments used for military purposes and at country fairs. The hautboy itself is called *zoorna*, and consists of a formidable long tube, opening into a small trumpet-shaped mouth, in the form of a tall champagne glass. It gives forth loud and shrill notes, which can be heard at a great distance, and is the most powerful wind instrument known to the Arabs. Much softer in its sound is the *nai*, or flute, which is 18in. long, made of reed, with a horn mouthpiece, and pierced with six holes along its upper part for the notes. It is played by blowing into it upon the sharp edge of the mouthpiece, the fingers being stretched over the notes, and the right hand held nearer to the mouth than the left. There are also smaller flutes, called in Egypt *zumwarat* and *argool*, and flageolets; and all these are used for church music and at indoor performances. The curious instrument used by the snake charmers at the Indian Village is apparently unknown in Western Asia. It has a long stem, bending slightly downwards to a sort of egg-shaped air reservoir, of the size of a cocoanut, and then again resuming the form of a hautboy. The other most notable kind of wind instrument is the Oriental bagpipe, which consists usually of a white sheepskin, untanned, and with the wool stripped off. It is held in the arms and pressed, while the performer blows into one corner of it, and the hands play upon a double reed, pierced with holes, and ending in a short cattle-horn. The partiality of the Indians and other populations of the East for the Scotch bagpipe was alluded to only a few days ago by the Maharajah of Johore, and is well known to most people who have resided in Hindustan; but it does not appear that the taste is ancient, nor were "the pipes" known until recently to other parts of Asia, except the West. Of stringed instruments we have a good example in the violin, played together with the tom-tom at the dance of the Nautch girls. This is of the sort known in Asia by the Persian word

kemendjeh, which means "a bow instrument," and is of rather curious manufacture, varying in different countries. In Syria and Arabia it is most commonly made of cocoanut shell bored with holes, but a part of the frame is cut away and replaced with the dried skin of a fish, on which rests the bridge. The smallest specimens of the *kemendjeh* are of a round shape, and have only two strings, made of horsehair, about three feet long. Below the instrument is a rod of iron, supporting it on the ground while it is played, the left hand of the performer being above the right hand, which holds the bow. A much larger variety—such as that used at the Albert Palace—resembles rather a violoncello, and is used in the same way. It has six strings, and is played with a broad bow very much curved. Of the guitar kinds of instruments, the principal is the *tamboora*, or lute, which is nearly four feet long, with ten strings of fine wire, and forty-seven stops. It is played with a plectrum, and is not unlike a big guitar, but is often inlaid with mother-of-pearl and choice woods. The *tamboora* seems to have been the sackbut of the Hebrew Scriptures. A smaller kind of guitar, about two feet long, is the *ood*, which, in Egypt and many parts of the East, has now replaced the harp and the psaltery, which latter was a sort of diminutive harp. The tambourine, or timbrel, is very like those played by gipsies, being a combination of drum and cymbal, held in the left hand and struck with the fingers of the right. Castanets of brass are used by dancers, and called *sagat;* and cymbals are still used in Persia under the name of *spoons*. Perhaps the most interesting of all Oriental instruments is the *kanoon*, which is a sort of shallow box, wider at one end than the other with twenty-two strings stretched across, three to each note. There is a bridge, resting on fishskin, and a sounding-board; and the music is produced by striking the notes with the fingers, covered by a horn plectrum. Still more nearly resembling our piano is the *santum* or double *kanoon*, which has wire striugs, and is struck with a hammer. It is one of these last instruments that is supposed to be described in one version of the Scriptures as a "dulcimer." Combinations of these instruments, and of "all kinds of music," are extremely ancient in the East, but as a rule the orchestras are composed of about four or five musicians, one of whom plays upon the *kemendjeh*, another on the *nai*, a third on the *ood* or *tamboora*, a fourth on the *kanoon* or *santur*, with perhaps its addition of a player on the *durabukkeh*. The aspect of five such performers sitting cross-legged on the ground has certainly little in common with that of an orchestra in Western Europe.

DECEMBER FASHIONS.

The recent frosty weather brought to the front a great number of very warm and comfortable-looking mantles, chiefly made of sealskin or of plush that resembles the fur, and trimmed with otter, beaver, or sable. The prevalence of tail-trimmings this season (the *Daily News* says) might almost lead the simple-minded to believe that each little furry creature has at least as many tails as legs; but the secrets of the fur manufacturer might possibly reveal the fact that everything that looks like a tail need not necessarily be one. Gold has no monopoly of seeming without being. And there are ways of sewing up pieces of fur and stuffing them to the semblance of tails that are executed with sufficient skill to deceive all but the original wearer of the real tail. He could put a name at once to the locality whence the piece of fur simulating the tail was taken. Despite the doctors who wrote against the wearing of fur, it is more largely adopted than ever this season. From the crown of the head to the heels, fashionably-dressed women are cosily enwrapped in sable, seal, marten, fox, or bear. The bonnets are trimmed with them—slightly enough, it is true, but sufficiently to bring them into accord with the rest of the toilet. Too much fur on a bonnet is apt to impart to the head a wild dishevelment of aspect. The long round boas of our grandmothers' time are now the very height of the mode. The ends reach to the very hem of the dress, and the fur is fastened together at the throat by a jewelled lace-pin. Diamonds look particularly well when they gleam from a background of dark fur. At a recent fashionable wedding one of the guests wore a beautiful gown of emerald green velvet, the jacket being trimmed with costly silver fox. A long boa of the same beautiful fur was worn round the neck, being clasped by an antique brooch of old silver, which matched the rococo buttons on the green velvet jacket. The silvery tones of the fur harmonised admirably with these, while they contrasted effectively with the warm, deep tones of the emerald velvet. Large, old-fashioned muffs are said to be in fashion, and it is true that a decided and vigorous attempt was made to introduce them at the beginning of the season. It was found, however, that their size was not only inconvenient and clumsy, but inartistic. A very large muff conveys naturally enough the idea of very large hands. Who would willingly be suspected of such an enormity as this? Is not a small hand a sign of race? Probably the "penniless lass wi' the lang pedigree" wore fives when she could afford to buy gloves at all. And why should people who wear fives hide the diminutive proportions of their hands in a muff so large that it could shelter an entire hotel full of chilly fingers feminine? So the small ones are faithfully adhered to, and those who combine bag and muff in one are particularly popular, being found very convenient in these days of inaccessible pockets.

A word on this distressing subject might not be out of place. If men would but make an effort of imagination, and endeavour to realise what life would be to them with only one pocket, and that one mysteriously hidden away beneath inscrutable folds of drapery, they would make more allowance than they do for the occasional slight shortness of temper and sharpness of repartee of which the pocketless sex is guilty. A man simply bristles with pockets. His only difficulty is to remember which of them holds the letter or card which he knows he has somewhere about him. The facility with which he dives into one after the other of these receptacles is watched with envious interest by the bereaved sex. Women used to have pockets, and convenient ones, too. Sheila, in *The Colleen Bawn*, as now played at the Adelphi, wears a good old-fashioned pocket measuring about twenty inches in length and perhaps a quarter of a yard across. This was the kind that was patronised by our grandmothers. A convenient slit in the dress gave access to this great bag, which was tied firmly round the waist and was large enough to hold the keys of the still-room, wine-cellar, store-room, and lordly sideboard, in addition to various odds and ends, including the inevitable bottle of salts, without which no lady felt equipped for an hour of life in an age when swoons were in fashion. Surely a duodecimo edition of this quarto pocket might be made available now. A slit in the folds of the tunic would be even less perceptible now than in the days of flowing skirts; and what a delightful immunity might thus be enjoyed from the tyranny of fashion in this one particular at least! Let us hope that among the improvements just completed in the popular system of scientific dress-cutting the question of available pockets may be taken into account. The system has been simplified and brought within the scope of the meanest intelligence. Would that the whereabouts of the pocket could be equally illuminated by the light of science!

An Eastern potentate, having an only daughter, chose twelve little girl companions for her among the prettiest children that could be found. These have now arrived at the early maturity of sunny Southern climes, and one, a Greek by birth, is about to be married. The description of her trousseau, as given in a Paris paper, reads like a passage out of *The Thousand and One Nights*. The dresses are European, but the custom of the country where the young bride is to live will necessitate the wearing of the shapeless feridjeh, which veils Egyptian ladies when out of doors from the gaze of the too curious. This outer garment may, however, be doffed on the occasion of exchanging those visits which form the chief interest of fashionable life in the harems. For this reason the visiting costumes of the beautiful Greek have received a special share of attention. One of these is made with a skirt of sapphire satin, trimmed with several bands of turquoise cashmere embroidered with cornflowers. The tunic is of this embroidered cashmere, and the sapphire satin bodice is trimmed with the same. The sunshade accompanying this dress is made with eight points provided by two squares of striped gauze placed over each other at different angles. It is lined with blue silk, and is trimmed with sapphire ribbons and white lace. There is a blue gauze fan for this dress, and on it a grotesque little Pierrot is delineated. A second visiting dress is made of a shaded myrtle green moire, the shades forming very wide stripes. The front is of embroidered velvet, which is arranged as a plastron upon the bodice, coming high enough to hide beneath it the ends of the fichu folds of striped moire. This bodice falls at the back in long ends much puffed out below the waist, and is a reminiscence of the Directoire coat. A magnificent pelisse of myrtle-green plush is an adjunct of this dress. It is trimmed with rich gold embroidery. Among other corollaries are a fan of myrtle satin, supporting a flight of birds issuing from a rose bush; a biscuit-coloured silk sunshade embroidered with amber and showing a flock of butterflies with emerald wings; and a muff to match the pelisse, embroidered with gold and trimmed with knots of moire ribbon. The third visiting dress, intended for summer wear, is made of poppy-coloured surah, the skirt being veiled with three deep flounces of écru network. The polonaise is composed of écru bengaline with waistcoat, collar, cuffs, and epaulettes embroidered in poppy-colour. The satin fan has an écru ground, with bouquets of pink and red tulips skilfully painted upon it. The sunshade is also écru, lined with poppy-coloured silk. With each dress are sent home stockings embroidered to match, small kid or satin shoes, gloves, and handkerchief. The lingerie is made entirely of silk trimmed with a profusion of ribbons and lace, some of the garments being pale pink embroidered with roses and forget-me-nots, and others in sky-blue dotted over with designs in satin-stitch, or in pale mauve embroidered in gold.

The only travelling dress included in the trousseau is made of antelope cloth edged with a handsome passementerie. The polonaise has the large shaded stripes which are among the latest novelties in dress fabrics. The polonaise is turned back on the hips, showing lined revers. A sunshade matching the soft brownish grey of the dress is lined with pink and edged with lace, made in many soft Oriental tints skilfully blended. An immense fan, with a snow scene painted on gauze, and a small muff complete this costume. The fan to European ideas appears irrelevant, but what could an Egyptian lady, even when travelling, do without her fan? The teagowns are lovely in colour and graceful as to form. One of these, in pink plush, is a long redingote edged with Bruges lace, over whose snowy undulations falls an embroidered flounce of Pompadour embroidery in a design of roses, forget-me-nots, and golden foliage. The gown is tied with blue ribbons. A second is composed of white lampas, with Louis Quinze vest edged with a wide band of ostrich feathers. The epaulettes, pockets, and cuffs are embroidered in gold, and knots of pale lilac ribbon tie the front together from the neck to the feet. A third teagown is in the lovely shade of pink known as Bengal rose, almost covered with guipure, in a purplish tone of colour. The guipure crosses shawl-wise in front, and is fastened by rich passementerie, matching the purple plum-colour of the guipure. A dog collar of jet in a similar shade fastens in front, with a knot of pink satin ribbon. With such a trousseau, who would not be a Princess—even by adoption?

BATHING THE SNAKES.

A little while since (writes a correspondent of the *St. James's Gazette*) I was examining some snakes in a certain collection, meanwhile gossiping with the attendant. In the collection were several fine specimens of the beautiful gold-and-black boa, and also of the black-and-white spotted boa. I found the keeper a very intelligent man, and some little information I was able to give him led him to ask me whether I had ever seen the snakes bathed. Now, I knew that it was customary to give these creatures an occasional bath, to keep them healthy and preserve the skin pliant and the colours fresh and clear; but I had never had an opportunity of witnessing the operation. Gladly, therefore, I accepted the offer. In a little time, a moderately large tub, half filled with warm water, was placed upon the ground, and my attendant and another man, stripping off their coats and waistcoats, turned up their shirt-sleeves to prepare for action. The first case contained four boa-constrictors, varying from 8ft. to 16ft. long. The keeper opened a small door in the end of the case, and then, sliding back the glass panel at the top, put his arm boldly in and ran his hand down the back of the nearest reptile, which moved from beneath his touch towards the open door. As the head of the snake passed the door he seized it with his right hand firmly round the neck, and drawing the body quickly out, caught it 5ft. or so lower down with his left hand, the other man taking the remainder and closing the little door. The reptile "squirmed" a good deal, as if objecting to such handling; but was quickly deposited in the tub, the keeper retaining his hold of the head and fore-part of the body. As the water touched the snake a perceptible quiver ran through it; for a few seconds it coiled and uncoiled itself forcibly, dashing the water about, and then seemed to settle down to placid enjoyment of the bath, struggling no longer, but allowing itself to be slowly moved about the tub.

Ticklish work, it seemed to me, and the keeper rather assented to that opinion. "You see one is apt to get careless; but so long as you are cautious it is simple enough. I remember well the first time I tried it. I was then at M——, and the regular keeper was taken sick and died. The day for bathing the snakes came round, and no one could be found to do it. Two days went over, and then I thought I would have a try. I had been feeding them for a year or more, and was pretty well used to them. Well, we filled the tub, and I got through with the job all right, and was soon appointed head keeper of the snake-house. Time went on; I fed and bathed the creatures regularly and got a little careless over it; and so it happened that one day I did not look after my man to see that he fastened the little door properly after we had one in the bath. On this particular day, too, he forgot to bring the change of blankets with him, and I never noticed it until I had one of the smaller snakes in the bath. As soon as I did notice it I sent him post-haste to the house to fetch them. The one in the bath was only about 9ft. long; so when he had been in the water long enough I lifted him out, intending to put him into a spare case and wait my man's return. Just as I raised him I felt something round my right leg, and, looking down, found the little door was open and that a 14ft. boa was out and had got a half-turn round my thigh. Of course he had to be stopped; so I let go of the body of the one I was holding, and by a fortunate shot grasped the other just below the head. The one in my left hand had coiled his body round my arm and, soothed by his bath, was quiet and comfortable; but the other was taking up all my spare time. He wriggled and twisted until I could scarce hold him, straining the coil round my thigh very tightly. He had also given a turn of his tail to my other leg, so that I could not move a step. However, there was nothing to prevent my calling out; and I did it; more especially because the door of that case was open, and that there were three more inside. My man might be five minutes gone; and I had to keep it up as best I could. The worst of it was, while the beast got his fold tighter and nearer to my body, he would shoot his head away almost out of my grasp, turning and twisting without ceasing. My fingers ached, and my wrist felt like breaking; while the circulation in my leg nearly stopped. Presently the feeling came over me that I did not mind much how it ended, and felt inclined to give up then and there. In fact, my fingers were relaxing, when I heard a step outside, and my man came in. A glance told him the state of affairs. He had the one off my arm and into the case in the twinkling of an eye, and then between us we got the other gentleman loose and boxed him; and then—well, there were no more snakes bathed that day. We kept it very quiet, and up to my leaving M—— it never oozed out; then my man was made keeper, and he let it out. You can imagine it was a lesson to both of us that will last some time."

The keeper looked meditatively at the reptile in the bath, no doubt recalling the sensations of that afternoon. "Fifteen minutes, sir," said his assistant, breaking in upon his short reverie. The keeper rose and lifted the snake from the tub, the assistant taking the hinder half. The reptile seemed quite torpid, and when they laid him on his clean blanket allowed them to wrap him up and deposit him in the case, where, after a lazy look round, he withdrew his head under the folds; a slight rise and fall could be seen, as he finally settled himself, and then all was motionless.

I stayed and saw the rest of them go through their ablutions, but their was little variation and no excitement; and so, thanking the keeper, I came away.

THE COURT.

The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg, left Windsor Castle at eleven o'clock on Friday morning for Osborne.

Her Majesty and their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, and the members of the Royal Household, attended Divine service at Osborne on Sunday morning. The Rev. Canon Prothero, M.A., officiated.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Henry Doulton, of the Lambeth Pottery, having been awarded the Albert Medal of the Society of Arts, for this year, in recognition of the impulse he has given to the production of art pottery in England, the Prince of Wales, who is President of the Society, on Monday proceeded to the works, in order to present the medal to Mr. Doulton in the presence of his fellow-workers. The recipient, in acknowledging the gift, said a great deal of their success was due to the impetus given to art manufacture by the late Prince Consort; and the Lambeth School of Art, of which the Prince of Wales laid the foundation-stone twenty-five years ago, had largely contributed to the prosperity of the Pottery Works.

The First Lord of the Admiralty has appointed a Committee, consisting of Vice-Admiral Graham, C.B., as chairman, Rear-Admirals G. W. Watson, F. A. Herbert, and H. D. Grant, Superintendents of Chatham, Portsmouth, and Devonport Dockyards; Sir Gerald FitzGerald, K.C.M.G., Accountant-General of the Navy; Captain Chatfield, Superintendent of Pembroke Dockyard; Captain E. Kelly, A.D.C.; Mr. W. H. White, Director of Naval Construction; Mr. J. Wright, C.B., Engineer in Chief; and Mr. M'Hardy, Director of Stores (for store business); with Mr. Gordon Miller, Inspector of Dockyard Accounts, as secretary, to consider and report upon the arrangements which will be necessary to carry into effect the details of the recommendations of Admiral Graham's Committee on dockyard expenditure. The principal points already decided upon are to strengthen the executive and financial control over dockyard transactions in general, to institute a system of responsible management, to abolish unnecessary clerical work, and remove all obstacles to the efficient performance of their duties by the supervising staff, thereby improving the system of supervision of labour and materials generally, to regulate the establishment and incidental expenditure, and to establish a reliable system of accounts as well as an independent audit of all expenditure. It is stated that Professor Elgar has accepted the appointment of Director of Dockyards.

The Princess of Wales has graciously intimated her intention to become the patron of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, Fulham-road, S.W., in succession to the late Duke of Albany; and we believe that it is with the hope that it may be helpful to the Hospital in obtaining the means to keep open the twenty extra beds in the "Albert Edward" floor, which for two years have been unoccupied for want of funds. Notwithstanding the existence of a mortgage debt and a heavy balance due to the Hospital's bankers, the board have been compelled to open these beds because of the increasing number of women needing and seeking operative treatment.

The Lord Chancellor and Lords Justices Lindley and Fry have given judgment in an appeal from a judgment of Mr. Justice North, by Mr. Whitestone, an "angel" of the Catholic Apostolic Church, who had been suspended by the trustees and his stipend stopped for not having made submission. The appellant and one of the trustees had quarrelled, and the suspension followed the refusal of Mr. Whitestone to make submission, and Mr. Whitestone brought his action for stipend, to which he claimed an inalienable right to be paid out of a sustentation fund. Mr. Justice North held that the rules of the society, as amended in 1867, gave no such right. The Lord Chancellor, while expressing regret that the Court could not see there way to replace Mr. Whitestone in the position in the church in which he had so many years laboured, there being no charge of impropriety of conduct against him, dismissed the appeal, the administration of the fund being outside the control of the Court. Lords Justices Lindley and Fry concurred.

A patent has just been granted to the Rev. Hely Smith for an invention entitled "The metrical striking of clocks and other timepieces in indicating the hour." The novelty consists in applying in a simple form the Morse system of intervals to the strokes of a clock. The advantage is that in consequence of certain pauses in the striking the ear can detect the hour without the strokes being counted, and no mistake or uncertainty as to the time can arise even though the first strokes may not have been heard or counted. There will, it is said, be no difficulty in learning the new system, and nothing to unlearn, as all who prefer to count can still do so, but in a short time no one will find it necessary, the metre as it were speaking the hour. The mechanism is applicable to existing clocks.

Sir R. Webster, Q.C., M.P., presiding at a meeting of the National Temperance League in the theatre of the London Institution, when prizes and certificates of merit were presented to students in training colleges and scholars in elementary schools for essays and reports on temperance, said: The class of temperance represented there was more to be commended than any other, because it appealed to the better and more reasonable feelings. The best way in which a nation at large could be brought to consider temperance from a practical point of view was to educate as many of them as possible to look at the subject from the right point of view. Adverting to the question whether mental work could be done better by total abstainers than by those who made a temperate use of stimulants, he said he had been a total abstainer for ten or twelve years, and he had not found the slightest difficulty in doing the hardest mental work during that time. He appealed especially to young children to set an example of temperance to their elders, and in conclusion declared that the example of a large and increasing number of the people who were endeavouring to spread the principles in which they believed would do more to promote the temperance of the country than any number of Acts of Parliament which might be forced upon the minds of those who were unwilling to subscribe to their conditions.

In one of the Queen's Bench Courts, where a judge sat for the trial of Middlesex actions with common juries, a large gathering of common jurors appeared in obedience to their summonses. On Friday, after the jury had been formed out of their number, but before the learned Judge had come in, one of the jurors in waiting rose from the body of the Court, and, addressing the officer of the Court who had just called the names of the jury, said, "My dear sir, you have not yet called Richard ——. I have been here for a week, and have had nothing to do." (Laughter.) The Officer: "There are a good many gentlemen here who have not yet been called." (Hear, hear, from jurors in waiting, and laughter.) Another juror, at the side of the Court, to the one who had just spoken: "Come on Christmas Day, and they'll cook a plum-pudding for you." (Laughter.) Another juror in waiting: "It is all very well for you gentlemen to laugh; but when a poor tradesman is taken away from his business to come here and wait about to do nothing, it isn't much of a laughing matter." Another juror in waiting: "It's a shame." The Usher, on the Judge entering: "Silence, silence!"

The following petition is in course of signature:—

"To the Governing Body of Eton.

"We, the undersigned, have learnt with surprise and regret that it is in contemplation to remove the range of buildings on the west side of Weston's-yard.

"The interest which these buildings possess as a specimen of Elizabethan and later domestic architecture, has been recognised both by the Society of Antiquaries and by the Royal Archæological Institute.

"Their architectural value is enhanced by the special historical associations which attach to that portion of them which is in the occupation of the Headmaster.

"To many successive generations of Etonians these buildings are endeared by memories which ought not, it will be generally admitted, to be needlessly disregarded.

"Of two other projects said to be impending—the destruction of Hawtrey's Library and the conversion of Upper School to the purpose of replacing it—it will be enough to say that we fail to see the necessity for the one and are strongly impressed with the unsuitability of the other.

"We would respectfully submit that whatever new accommodation be required for the school should be provided in some manner compatible with the preservation of monuments so interesting in themselves and so fondly cherished by Old Etonians."

Mr. T. E. Heller, secretary of the National Union of Elementary Teachers, has reported to the committee of that association the result of a recent interview he had had with Sir Henry Holland, Vice-President of the Council, on various subjects affecting the interests of elementary teachers. Referring to the subject of the alleged over-pressure in elementary schools, Sir Henry said he had at present no official communication that a Royal Commission to inquire into the subject subject would be appointed; but that if it were he thought the scope of the inquiry should be made as wide as possible, including the subject of payment by results. He thought that as long as public money had to be distributed they could not entirely abolish payment by results. He believed, moreover, that it was not so much payment by results as the mode of administration that produced the complaints against the present system. He further expressed an opinion that if the Commission were appointed a representative of the elementary teachers should be one of the Commissioners.

An important supplement to the annual report of the Registrar-General has just been issued, showing the extent to which zymotic diseases have prevailed in the last ten years. It is asserted that since the enforcement of the Vaccination Acts there has been a gradual and notable decline in the mortality from smallpox. The decline in the mortality from scarlet fever was very considerable, the annual deaths per million having fallen from 972 to 716. The decline under the heading of measles has been much less considerable, being only from 440 to 378. The deaths from fever, including typhus, enteric fever, and ill-defined forms of continued fever, fell from an annual average of 885 per million to 484, a decline of no less than 45 per cent. This is held to be the most satisfactory of all the declines shown in the table, not only because it is the greatest in amount, but because enteric fever is, of all diseases, putting aside the effect of vaccination upon smallpox, the one which is most directly and largely affected by sanitary measures. Therefore the decline in mortality under this heading is the best test available of the efficacy of sanitary administration, careful sewerage, better water supply, and other sanitary improvements.

Speaking at a prize distribution at the British Schools, Derby, last week, Sir William Harcourt said there could be no greater contrast than was afforded by the education of the present day to that of fifty or sixty years ago. They had brought millions within the reach of education. There were still some outlying in the byeways and the lanes, but they would compel them to come in. It was pleasing not only to the individual, but to the State and to the whole community, that we should have an understanding and a well-educated people. It was not, however, merely that the children of the present age were receiving a great privilege; they must remember that there were no great privileges which were not accompanied by equal responsibilities. In former days the children had their one talent; they now had their ten talents, for which they would all be held responsible. Sir William afterwards referred to the efforts of Lancaster in founding these schools, and said that whereas education was formerly the peculiar privilege of the rich, it was now within the reach of all, without reference to political or religious opinions.

The final meeting of the Mansion House Committee of the fund started in the mayoralty of Sir John W. Ellis, in December, 1881, for the defence of property in Ireland, has been held. It was stated that since the fund was started £18,226 had been applied to the defence of property in Ireland, and that there remained a balance of £1,268 in hand. The opinion of the committee had been invited as to the advisability of handing over the balance of the funds of the Irish Defence Union in aid of persons suffering from illegal coercion in Ireland, and from the intimidation which is called boycotting. In addition to those present, forty members of the committee, including the Dukes of Sutherland, Buckingham, and Westminster, Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Samuel Morley, and others of various politics, were in favour of so applying the balance, and it was accordingly resolved, on the motion of Lord Folkestone, seconded by Mr. Walter Morrison, "That as the Irish Defence Union has practically taken up the objects for which the Mansion House Committee was originally constituted, this committee is of opinion that it would best advance the interests it has in view by transferring the balance of the fund and its personal influence to the Irish Defence Union, and that the balance be transferred accordingly." The Mansion House Fund was accordingly closed.

The Welsh tenant farmers have begun an agitation for a Land Act based on lines similar to the Irish Land Act. At a meeting just held at Holywell, lying between Chester and Rhyl, of the tenantry on the estates of the Duke of Westminster (who has just granted an abatement of 25 per cent.), the Earl of Denbigh, Lord Mostyn, and other noblemen, resolutions were passed in favour of a Land Act for Wales. During the discussion several farmers spoke against the excessive rents charged, and there was a general opinion expressed that where a farm became vacant on a high-rented estate no one should make application for it, in order to boycott the landlord, and so compel him to yield to their terms. It was further resolved that drastic land agitation similar to that witnessed in Ireland was imperatively required for the protection of Welsh tenant farmers.

The report of the Salvation Army for the year September 30 last—which will shortly be that, so far from the Army having been injured this year, owing to the prejudice created against it by the Armstrong case, it was at least a third stronger than when the year began. Its receipts were £1,500 in excess of those of 1884, notwithstanding that in this year £9,600 was raised by way of special relief. The total income from all sources—apart from trade receipts—was £76,168 17s. 4½d., which included £30,849 19s. 8d. towards the building fund; £13,523 12s. 7½d. for the general spiritual fund; £11,973 2s. 8d. for the training homes; £3,958 13s. 3½d. for the rescue homes; £3,634 7s. 2½d. for the corps debt extinction fund; and £2,607 13s. 1d. for the foreign service fund. The balance in hand was £169 5s. 1½d. The trading account in connection with the central trade headquarters showed £12,754 10s. 2d. received from the sale of books, &c., and printing £24,137 10s. 9d. from the sale of the official journals of the organisation, £19,636 10s. 7d. from the sales effected in the outfit department, and £6,397 1s. 2d. from the sale of tea. The net profit of these transactions was £3,606 11s. 3d. The total number of corps in the United Kingdom was 802, against 637 in 1884; and abroad 520, against 273. The officers—exclusive of *employés* engaged in the trade departments—numbered 1,780 at home and 1,296 abroad. Corps were established and prospering, despite all the obstacles and difficulties against which they had to contend, in France, Switzerland, Sweden, the United States, Canada, India, Ceylon, Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, Tasmania, Queensland, New Zealand, and South Africa. The services held weekly in connection with the Army are said to be 25,496. Special efforts are being made in Great Britain for the purpose of "saving the new voters." To this end four specially-constructed vans, in charge of cadets from the training homes, are travelling through the rural districts, the cadets holding open-air and indoor services on the route. The literature disseminated by the Army in the past year consisted of 23,470,860 publications, issued in thirteen different languages. New rescue homes for the rescue of fallen women have been opened in London, Glasgow, Plymouth, Reading, and in the Australian colonies, the Government of Victoria voting the Salvationists there £1,000 towards furnishing a new home. The Government, too, permit them to visit prisoners in the gaols. A prison-gate brigade has been formed in the metropolis, and the rescue work among fallen females, somewhat impeded by the circumstances relating to the recent trial, is to be vigorously prosecuted in the future. Within the year twenty-four new buildings were purchased or hired for barracks in Great Britain, costing £24,000, and accommodating 25,465 persons altogether, besides many other buildings. The report claims that the Army largely originated and carried on the agitation which resulted in the passing of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill. The costs incurred in defending Mr. Bramwell Booth in the Armstrong case were defrayed by a special fund.

The case of Mr. Irving Bishop against Mr. Labouchere for libel was called on on Saturday in the Queen's Bench Division. Mr. Digby Seymour, Q.C., applied for a postponement, but could not undertake to pay in £200, and a jury having been sworn, the case was called. The plaintiff not appearing, the jury, under the direction of the Lord Chief Justice, found a verdict for the defendant.

Another outrage on English travellers on the Continent is reported by Mr. S. J. Weyman, in a letter to the *Times* of Monday. Mr. Weyman says:—

"Upon the 14th of December, accompanied by my brother, I arrived at Oloron Station, about twenty miles from Pau, at a quarter to three in the afternoon. After placing our luggage in a diligence for Pardets, we requested the driver to keep two places for us. We then walked a little way in advance, until being overtaken by the diligence we took our seats in the interior, and pursued our journey in the company of a sub-officer of gendarmes. The latter put to us several questions, which we answered in a friendly way, so that our surprise was great when at Aramitz, a village about seven miles from Oloron, the official asked us to descend, and demanded our names and papers of identity. Notwithstanding that we at once gave our names, and that I on my part handed him a passport issued by the Foreign Office in London, as well as a banker's letter of recommendation, he arrested us. It was in vain that I showed him that we carried a considerable sum of money, and had besides a receipt for a large quantity of luggage then on its way to Biarritz; in vain, also, that we repeatedly stated to him that we were British subjects. After being allowed to send a telegram to the Vice-Consul at Pau, we were taken, it being then 6 p.m., to two cells, which formed a wretched outhouse adjoining the gendarmerie. These cells were mean in the extreme, with dirty rough-cast walls, a stone floor, and no windows, but merely an unglazed aperture above the door. They were such places as would scarcely be used in England for dogs. Nevertheless, in these two cells we were severally locked up for thirteen hours (during which the doors were not opened), without light, fire, or any warming apparatus. It was freezing many degrees, and the night air entered the cells by many apertures besides the large one over the door. Our knapsacks, as well as our money, watches, and papers, having been taken from us, I had no protection against the excessive cold except two thin and frowsy coverings, which formed the bedclothes, and suffered so greatly that I was compelled to spend the last three or four hours before daybreak in walking up and down the cell, and was not able during the whole night to obtain ten minutes' sleep. My brother, although he was in some degree protected by a railway rug, of which he had not been deprived, also suffered greatly from the cold. I may mention that we had offered to pay for accommodation at the hotel, but this was refused. Soon after 8 a.m. on the 15th we were taken out and permitted to warm ourselves at a fire; immediately after which a telegram vouching for our respectability was received from the Vice-Consul at Pau (Mr. Musgrave Clay), who on his part had lost no time in replying to our appeal. Unfortunately, I then stated to the officer who had originally arrested us that we intended to complain of his conduct; he forthwith took us back to one of the cells, in which we again remained locked up for three hours. About noon we were permitted by the subordinate gendarmes, who in several small ways showed their sympathy, to eat some lunch outside in the sun.

"Between 1 and 2 p.m. we were taken on foot to Oloron, and during the greater part of the journey had to carry our baggage, the gendarmes threatening that if we did not do so they would handcuff us and compel us to perform the journey in that fashion. This threat they enforced by preparing the chains and handcuffs. They had before in our presence ostentatiously loaded their revolvers. In this way we were conducted, a gendarme on either side of us, through several villages and a great part of the town of Oloron in the presence of some hundreds of people.

"At Oloron we were charged before the procureur with being without the necessary papers of identity and as lying under the suspicion of being German spies. The procureur at sight of the Vice-Consul's telegram and our papers ordered us to be liberated, but refused to grant us any redress, on the ground that neither my passport (not being viséd for France) nor my banker's letter of recommendation (being printed and not written) were sufficient evidence of identity to fulfil the law.

"We were released at 10 minutes to 6 p.m., after being 25 hours in custody, nine of which were subsequent to the receipt of the Vice-Consul's telegram.

"The facts speak for themselves. I need only add that, apart from the gross infringement of our liberty, I never suffered more severe cold and physical discomfort than during the night of the 14th-15th."

Lord Cadogan, president of the Chelsea Hospital for Children, Fulham-road, S.W., calls attention to the very urgent pecuniary needs of the institution, which has neither endowment nor invested property. It is, on the contrary, labouring under a heavy mortgage and a debt of some £1,500 to its bankers. Notwithstanding this depressing fact, the "Albert Edward" floor, of twenty beds, which for two years had remained unoccupied simply for want of funds, has recently been opened for patients, a responsibility which was forced upon them, because of the numbers of sick women who applied, and who were in sad need of immediate operative treatment. Under these circumstances his Lordship writes:—"I am sure that I may hopefully ask for the necessary funds to keep open these extra beds, and to help us to reduce the mortgage and bank loan."

Lord Tollemache, who completed his 80th year on the 7th inst., has recovered from the serious illness which he passed through a short time since, and is again able to attend to the improvements which he is constantly making on his Peckforton estate. His Lordship possesses about 46,000 acres of land in Cheshire, and it is a most striking testimony to the value of his supervision that during the whole of the agricultural depression from 1877 to 1885 he had neither a vacant farm nor a tenant in arrears. His estate in Cheshire has, during his lifetime, been cut up into farms of about 200 acres, his Lordship considering that a thrifty farmer, with sons and daughters, could do excellently on a farm of that size, whereas they would suffer severely on a smaller holding. He has built or rebuilt between fifty and sixty houses at the cost of £148,000, and has built no fewer than 260 cottages for his labourers. With regard to the education of children on his estate, an anecdote, which has the advantage of being perfectly true, is told. Lord Tollemache was anxious to provide mixed schools for the education of the farmers' and labourers' children; but after they had been built, at considerable expense, he found that the tenant farmers objected to send their sons to the same schools with the labourers' children. Having listened quietly to the masters' complaint, his Lordship said, "There is only one way out of the difficulty. I will send my own sons." For nearly two years Lord Tollemache's children attended the school, and, he is stated to have remarked, "to their undoubted advantage." The Marquis of Salisbury is encouraging allotments upon his Hertfordshire estates at Hoddesdon, near the Rye House. At Meesdon, another portion of his Lordship's estate, thirty allotments are already held, and at Hadham twenty-five. The usual price to the labourer is at the rate of £2 an acre. The size varies occasionally with the number of the family, but a quarter of an acre is regarded as a fair limit for one man.

A Parliamentary return has been issued showing during the period from 1870 to 1884, in each year, the number of children attending Voluntary schools, the total amount of expenditure, the amount of school fees, the amount of voluntary subscriptions, the amount of Government grant, the amount received from other sources, and the number of new schools established. In the year which ended on August 31, 1870, there were 1,693,059 children on the registers of the Voluntary schools and 1,152,389 in average attendance. Last year these figures amounted to 2,853,604 and 2,157,292 respectively. The total expenditure in 1870 was £1,527,023; in 1884 it had risen to £3,812,149. £502,023 were paid in school fees in 1870, and £1,205,440 in 1884. The voluntary subscriptions in the former year came to £418,839; in the latter to £732,524. The Government grant amounted in 1870 to £562,611; in 1884 the sum was £1,768,140. The amount received from (all) other sources was—in 1870, £76,509; in 1884, £192,975. 436 new schools were established in 1870 and 89 last year. The returns for 1885 are not yet complete.

The terra-cotta memorials supplied by the Terra-Cotta Manufacturing Company, Oxford, are, it is evident, becoming very popular, and deservedly so, while they are extremely artistic and durable. The price at which they are supplied is so reasonable as to place them at once within the reach of all classes of the community. The announcement, therefore, that Mr. Windett Woods, the managing-director of the company, is making arrangements for the appointment of agents in various parts of England for the sale of the patented terra-cotta memorials will be received with satisfaction.

The Earl of Iddesleigh last week gave a very sensible address to the students of the Exeter Science Classes, of which he is the patron. He spoke of the rapidly growing feeling in favour of scientific education, and of the results it had already accomplished for the individual and the nation. After referring to misconceptions as to what technical education really meant, the Earl said:—"There is no doubt that by technical education you may mean one of two things. You may either mean an advance in the teaching of the scientific principles on which industrial processes depend, or you may mean the teaching of those processes practically and illustratively in the school rather than in the workshop. There is a very great difference between these two things. It may be desirable at times to give a certain amount of instruction in schools of a practical character, but that must not be pushed very far. It must be borne in mind that technical teaching, to be of real service, must be obtained in the course of work itself in the workshop. But with regard to the principles on which the processes of manufacture rest, those principles can only be taught in the schools, and it is to the development of those principles that we ought to pay most attention. That is the advantage which in schools of this kind you get. The study of pure and unapplied science is interesting to everyone, but it does not at once appear that it has a direct bearing on the pursuits and callings of those who indulge in it. I daresay you may have heard the old question put, 'What is the use of any purely scientific discovery?' For answer another question was asked, 'What is the use of a baby?' The question is, What will it turn out to be? How will it be brought up, and how will it be brought into play?" The Earl of Iddesleigh then quoted the following passage from Professor Huxley:—"If you could, in the first place, keep your elementary scholars long enough to put them through a fair training in the principles of which the application lies in the special direction of metallurgy, and, secondly, if you could secure that they should acquire a special proficiency in such subjects, I think that would be a most admirable thing to do; but I think the way it would work out under the present conditions would be this: that you would have special classes set up to grind young fellows without any knowledge of principles in that which would be no better than the rule of thumb. I do not believe that that would be of the smallest good. I believe, on the contrary, that it would do endless harm, because there would be a sort of presupposition that these young men really had the knowledge which would enable them to advance and improve their methods, whereas in reality the knowledge they possessed would be nothing more than a little of the ordinary *technique* of their business varnished over with scientific phraseology." "What you want," the Earl said, "is what Professor Huxley says you want, as far as you can get it—the education to turn upon the principles on which the true science is based, as distinguished from the application of the science. Having got that, you will find that there will be abundance of opportunity to apply to the arts which you are about to prosecute the principles you have learnt. These principles I believe to be the main secret of what is sometimes called scientific, and sometimes called technical, education."

THE BLOOD PURIFIER.—Old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla is highly recommended for Blood and Skin Diseases, Gout, Dropsy, Indigestion, Pimples, Blotches, Boils, &c. Of all Chemists, in bottles, 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 11s. Depôt, 131, Fleet-street, E.C.

MESSRS. FRY AND SONS are daily receiving numerous testimonials from the medical profession speaking in high terms of their Pure Concentrated Soluble Cocoa. Sir Charles Cameron, M.D., President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, says:—"I have formed a high opinion of its value. It is especially adapted to those whose digestive organs are weak, and I strongly recommend it as a substitute for tea." Ask your grocer for a sample of this delicious Cocoa.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read, 'Water: its Impurities and Purification.' Price 6d.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 10, at Ellerthwaite, Windermere, the wife of the Rev. JOHN MILES MOSS, of a daughter.

Dec. 11 at Eccleston Rectory, Chester, the wife of the Rev. G. A. ROBINS, of a daughter.

Dec. 12, at Broomhall, the Countess of ELGIN, of a daughter.

Dec. 12, at Mirehouse, the Lady JANE SPEDDING, of twin daughters (prematurely).

Dec. 13, at East Hoathly Rectory, the wife of the Rev. HARRY HARDCASTLE, of a daughter.

Dec. 14, at Rimpton Rectory, Sherborne, the wife of the Rev. JOHN W. MERRY, of a daughter.

Dec. 20, at South Cave Vicarage, East Yorkshire, the wife of the Rev. W. TEESDALE-MACKINTOSH, of a son.

Dec. 20, at Holywell Vicarage, Oxford, the wife of the Rev. WALTER H. PARTRIDGE, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 10, at St. George's, Hanover-square, PERCIVAL EDWARD REEVE, second son of the late Canon Reeve, to BEATRICE MARY, youngest daughter of Major FEARNLEY-WHITTINGSTALL, of 165, Queen's-gate, S.W.

Dec. 12, at St. Mary's, Acton, JOHN FREDERICK, fourth son of the Venerable ROBERT MAUNSELL, LL.D., Archdeacon of Auckland, New Zealand, to EMMA LOUISE, niece and adopted daughter of HENRY H. BEAUCHAMP, of East Lodge, Acton, Middlesex.

Dec. 12, at St. John's Church, Paddington, ANDREW MAC LACHLAN, M.D., C.M., Fenwick, West Dulwich, S.E., to JESSIE BLANCHE, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Justice WEARING, of the Supreme Court, Adelaide, South Australia.

Dec. 15, at St. Saviour's, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, OLIVER W. WARNER, of the Colonial Civil Service, to LEILA, daughter of Colonel W. C. JUSTICE, C.M.G.

Dec. 16, at Hardenhuish, HENRY JACOB, eldest son of Sir J. H. PRESTON, Bart., of Beeston Hall, Norfolk, to MARY HOPE, younger daughter of the late EDMUND LEWIS CLUTTERBUCK, of Hardenhuish Park, Wilts.

DEATHS.

Dec. 11, at 20, Lushington-road, Eastbourne, CATHERINE, widow of the Rev. GEORGE MILES COOPER, formerly Vicar of Willington, Sussex, and Prebendary of Chichester, aged 84.

Dec. 12 at Frampton House, Lincolnshire, MARTHA COPLAND, widow of the late Rev. JOHN FUNNARD, aged 72.

Dec. 12, at Parkhurst, near Newbury, ANN, relict of the Rev. THOMAS LANGLEY, Rector of Ganarew, Herefordshire.

Dec. 13, at Park House, Banwell, SUSANNAH, the wife of the Rev. S. V. EDWARDS, aged 68.

Dec. 14, at Glandlyn, St. Asaph, FRANCES, wife of the late Rev. W. H. G. MANN, sometime Vicar of Bowdon, Cheshire, aged 63.

Dec. 14, suddenly, at 80, Westbourne-terrace, WILLIAM EBBETT ON, son of the Rev. W. PAGE ROBERTS, aged 21.

Dec. 16, at Weston-super-Mare, MARY PRESTON HELSHAM, widow of the late Rev. Henry Helsham, of Rosbercon, county Kilkenny.

Dec. 21, at Feering Vicarage, Essex, WILLIAM GORDON, son of the Rev. WILLIAM JAMES and MARGARET LUCY PACKE, aged 10 months.

Dec. 21, at Thornton Heath, ANN CLARA, wife of LOUIS N CHOVEAUX.

LATEST NEWS.

The following telegram has been received at the India-office :—

"From Viceroy, Dec. 22.

"Europeans in Burmah forests. Bernard telegraphs :—

"Begins. 'It is now certain that Messrs. Allan, Roberts, and Moncur, of the Bombay-Burmah Corporation, were killed while captives in the Chindwin River. Allan was killed with swords on the steamer; another [who] had been wounded by bullet jumped into river to avoid Allan's fate, and disappeared. Moncur similarly jumped overboard, was cut on the neck by swords, and sank.

"'Other four, Ross, Hill, Bates, and Ruckstuhl, came here yesterday in care of local Woon, who protected them. Three more, Morgan, Brett, O., and another Ruckstuhl, are still up Chindwin, but force has started to rescue if they are still alive.

"'Two other Europeans, Gray and Mabbart, at first believed to be dead, were safe with a friendly local official on 15th. A party under new Woon, who is strong and friendly, has gone to rescue them. Europeans, friends of imperilled men, go with Woon.' Ends.

"Johnstone telegraphs from Munipur, 17th, that he has received letters from Morgan, stating he, Brett, O., and Ruckstuhl (?) are well, having been protected by Kindat Woon. Johnstone is sending present to Woon, who, he says, behaved admirably."

Belgrade, Dec. 23.

A collision is reported to have occurred yesterday at Yeleskitza between some Bulgarian volunteers, who were charged with being the aggressors, and two companies of Servian troops. Several of the Bulgarians were taken prisoners.

An article by the well-known Servian writer M. Matias Ban appears in the *Belgradski Dnevnik*, proposing an agreement between Servia and Bulgaria with a view to the formation of a Balkan Confederation either with the consent of the Porte, or, failing that, without regard to the wishes of the Constantinople Government.

Count Khevenhueller and M. Garashanine have returned here. The Military Commission will not arrive at Nisch till to-day. The members will dine with the King in the evening.

It is reported that five Servian battalions have revolted, one of which is stationed at Uzitza, another at Chachack, and the remaining three at Zaitchar. The latter are, however, stated to have already surrendered. Two more batteries of Deauge cannon have arrived here, and have been sent forward to Nisch.

A band of robbers, under Alimpitch, has been captured at Gradista and brought to Val Yevo, where they were tried and condemned to be shot.

Rome, Dec. 23.

Leo XIII., on the occasion of the Christmas festivities, has instructed the Apostolic Almoner to provide 160 poor and deserving families in Rome with a new bed each, furnished with all that is necessary. Further, the Pope has ordered the distribution of 15,000f. in money.

Madrid, Dec. 23.

The Queen Regent to-day signed a decree nominating Martinez Campos President of the Senate. Señor Canovas will be elected President of Congress. Queen Christina will take the oath as Regent of the kingdom before the latter, who, being the elder of the two Presidents, is indicated by the Constitution to fulfil this duty.

Sydney, Dec. 23.

A new Ministry has been formed by Sir John Robertson.

The Agent-General for New South Wales has received a telegram from Sydney informing him of the formation of a new Ministry :—Premier and Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Sir John Robertson, K.C.M.G.; Colonial Treasurer, the Hon. J. S. Burns; Attorney-General, the Hon. G. B. Simpson; Secretary for Land, the Hon. G. Spring; Secretary for Public Works, the Hon. J. Garrard; Minister of Public Instruction, the Hon. J. H. Young; Minister of Justice, the Hon. L. F. Heydon; Postmaster-General, the Hon. Daniel O'Connor; Secretary for Mines, the Hon. R. M. Vaughan.

The International Military Commission arrived at Nisch on Wednesday afternoon, and, after taking leave of the King, they started for Belgrade, where they intend to remain for two days. The evacuation of Widdin and Pirot was proceeding on Wednesday.

In the French Chamber on Wednesday, M. Brisson, on the part of the Government, made an energetic speech in support of the Credits asked for the maintenance of the French forces in Tonquin. He said it was contemplated to establish a Protectorate over Annam, a Civil Resident being appointed to control the nomination of Mandarins and Provincial Governors. In Tonquin the French authorities would superintend the collection of taxes. Mr. Brisson said there was reason to hope that the army of occupation might be reduced in the spring. At the close of the Premier's speech the advocates of evacuation lost all hope of carrying their object against the Government.

Most of the newspapers in Paris are very pleased at a treaty having been made with Madagascar. The draft, it seems, was drawn up by M. de Freycinet, who placed it in the hands of M. Patrimonio, and he, though apparently going out to Zanzibar merely as French Consul, was in fact sent to conduct the negotiations with the Hovas. The text will not be published until the treaty has been ratified; but it is stated that the word "Protectorate" does not occur in it.

Two fatal cases of cholera have occurred at Trieste. Much alarm has been caused in Italy, and the Mayor of Venice has sent to the newspapers a circular protesting against the exaggerated reports regarding the sanitary condition of that town.

The Russians at Sebastopol are, it is said, showing extraordinary energy in the completion of various naval works. The first Crown dock, which according to contract was to have been completed at the end of May, 1886, will be opened in January. The cost of the work is 2,400,000 roubles, and the Russian Admiralty candidly acknowledge that this is the first undertaking of its kind which has not shown a deficit on the original estimate. The first of the warships now building at Sebastopol will be completed in May, and placed in this dock. The second Crown dock will probably be opened at the end of 1886.

His Grace the Archbishop of Armagh was better on Wednesday night. The following bulletin was issued at half-past nine :—"His Grace has rallied considerably during the day, and is stronger than yesterday.—W. W. Leeper."

The eviction of a family named Broderick, tenants to Major Chearnley, at Modeligo, seven miles from Dungarvan, took place on Wednesday. The evicted family held the house for an hour against the bailiffs and about 200 police. Bottles, jars, and boiling water were thrown from inside, while the police were stoned by the mob. Mr. Redmond, resident magistrate, ordered the police to charge, and several farmers were badly cut in the struggle.

At Moy, county Tyrone, on Wednesday fifteen Protestants and ten Nationalists were charged with being concerned in the rioting during the election for South Tyrone. It was suggested that the summonses should be adjourned for three months, and this being agreed to they were adjourned accordingly. Owen Donnelly, a Nationalist, was committed for trial, charged with having violently assaulted a Protestant named John Patrick.

Lord Enniskillen has issued the following circular to County Grand Masters of Orange Lodges in Ulster :—"*Florence Court, Dec.* 21.—Dear Sir and Brother,—The imminent danger which menaces Irish Loyalists through the attitude suddenly assumed by Mr. Gladstone on the question of separation, calls, in my judgment, for some united and authoritative declaration on their part. The Orange organisation in Ulster provides the most effectual machinery for eliciting such an expression of opinion, and I have no doubt that thousands not belonging to our body who are, equally with us, animated by the determination to maintain the integrity of the Empire, will gladly avail themselves of it. I therefore hope you will, at the earliest possible moment, summon meetings in your county for the purpose of bringing our case before our countrymen in Great Britain, and of pointing out the dangers which must inevitably ensue to the Empire should the designs attributed to Mr. Gladstone be carried into effect. The arrangements for such meetings I leave to your discretion; but I would suggest that where practicable one at least should be held in each Parliamentary division.—Fraternally yours, Enniskillen, D.G.M."

It has been announced this week that the Bishop of Winchester has ruptured a small blood-vessel and is lying ill at Southsea. The statement (says the *Daily News* Portsmouth correspondent) is inaccurate. Soon after his arrival at Southsea a month ago the Bishop had an attack of bleeding at the nose, and he was ordered by his medical adviser perfect rest and quiet for some months; in accordance with this advice, the Bishop does not see anybody. He is recovering, and was sufficiently well on Wednesday to take a drive with Mrs. Harold Browne.

The *Guardian* states that the Bishop of Bedford has been offered, and has refused, the Bishopric of Manchester. His Lordship feels that he has no right to desert the very important work which has been entrusted to him in East London.

The Bishop of Rochester on Wednesday morning consecrated a new cemetery for Woolwich, in the presence of the members of the local Burial Board and a number of spectators. The new cemetery, which is a continuation of the existing one, cost £14,000.

Baker, the man wanted for the burglary at Netherby Hall and subsequent murders, was arrested by Police-constable Westwood on Wednesday morning, in Regent-street. The constable knew the fellow, and arrested him without any resistance. He was taken to Marlborough-street, and afterwards to Scotland-yard by Chief Inspector Shore. He was thence sent on to Carlisle. The accused arrived in that city in the course of the day, in charge of two London detectives, and was taken before the wounded constable and others who had seen the four burglars, for the purpose of identification.

What it is feared will prove a terrible colliery disaster is reported from the Rhondda Valley in South Wales. On Wednesday afternoon, shortly before three o'clock, a tremendous explosion occurred in No. 2 Colliery at Mardy; the shaft and the apparatus at the pit mouth were wrecked; and up to Wednesday night only five out of a large number of imprisoned men had been rescued, all of them being injured. It is feared that nearly 200 lives have been lost.

Sir Thomas Dyke-Ackland, M.P., who has just been on a visit to Hawarden, has stated his belief that no credence should be placed on the reports current about Mr. Gladstone's views on Home Rule. Further, he declared that the right hon. gentleman did not desire to accept the responsibilities of office.

Sir George Harrison, the newly-elected Liberal member for South Edinburgh, died suddenly on Wednesday morning. The deceased member was Lord Provost of the city.

Late on Tuesday night the weather in the north of Scotland underwent a sudden change, and from being mild and even sultry became bitterly cold. Telegrams on Wednesday evening reported that snow was falling heavily all over the North, and that at Pitlochry seven degrees of frost were registered. The snow was hard and dry, and there was every appearance of a continuance of the storm.

A remarkable sight took place at Leicester on Wednesday, when 200 septuagenarians met to receive a new half-crown each, and wine and biscuits, from Mr. J. H. Cooper, of Evington Hall, Leicester, and the Framework Knitters' Company, of London. A large number were over 80, and one old woman, named Ann Hinga, 100 years and 10 months of age, received the gift. She appeared to be very lively and intelligent.

At the Adelphi Theatre on Wednesday, the new melodrama, by Messrs. Sims and Pettitt, entitled *Harbour Lights*, was produced for the first time. The play, which is substantially a naval version of *In the Ranks*, by the same authors, sets forth a striking story, full of strong dramatic incidents, illustrated with very picturesque and ingenious scenery. Mr. Terriss, who played the hero, Miss Millward, as the heroine, and the rest of the company acted admirably, and at the close the principal performers had to acknowledge the enthusiastic calls by appearing before the footlights.

SOCIETY.

A marriage has been arranged between Mr. John A. Sellar, of Fernlea, Chilworth, Hampshire, and Miss Madeline Charrington, third daughter of Mr. Edward Charrington, of Bury's Court, near Reigate, Surrey.

The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne were present at the marriage of Mr. Ralph Sneyd, of Keele-hall, Staffordshire, and Miss Mary Ellis, eldest daughter of Colonel Arthur Ellis, C.S.I., Equerry to the Prince of Wales, at St. Peter's Chapel, Vere-street, Cavendish-square, on Saturday afternoon. The ceremony was fixed for 4 p.m., at which hour the wedding party had assembled. Mr. Albert Baillie was the best man, and the two youngest sisters of the bride, Misses Evelyn and Dorothy Ellis, and two Misses Ponsonby, all children, were the bridesmaids. At the service, which was choral, the Rev. E. Lane, M.A., rector of Leigh, Stoke-on-Trent, officiated, assisted by the Rev. C. G. Lane, M.A., rector of Little Gaddesden, Herts. Colonel Ellis gave his daughter away. Immediately after the ceremony the young married couple left the chapel, and shortly afterwards the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, attended by the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt-Wilson and Captain the Hon. D. J. Monson, and the Princess Louise and Marquis of Lorne quitted the chapel and drove off to Colonel and Hon. Mrs. Ellis's residence, 29, Portland-place, where the majority of the wedding party reassembled. Among the guests were the Austrian Ambassador and Countess Karolyi, Lord Arran and Lady Alice Gore, Lord Kenmare and Lady Margaret Browne, the Dowager Lady Mayo and Lady Florence Bourke, and many others. The Royal guests stayed till about six o'clock. In the course of the evening Mr. and Mrs. Sneyd left for East Sheen Lodge, Lord Fife's house, Richmond-park.

The Rev. George Arbuthnot, M.A., vicar of Stratford-on-Avon, eldest son of the late Mr. G. C. Arbuthnot, of Mavisbank, Midlothian, and Miss Margaret Evelyn Luckock, eldest daughter of the Rev. Canon Herbert Mortimer Luckock, D.D., Canon of Ely, and Principal of Ely Theological College, were lately married at St. Stephen's Church, Southwell-gardens, Kensington. The bride was attired in white satin, the long square train being scalloped at the edge, and the petticoat covered with fine Brussels lace flounces; and she wore a wreath of orange blossoms and tulle veil fastened with diamond pins, the gifts of the bride's father and grandmother; she also wore pearl ornaments, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried a bouquet of real marguerites and eucharis lilies. Her train was carried by her two little brothers, Masters Arthur and Russell Luckock, dressed in pretty page costumes of ruby velvet, with cream waistcoats, and collars and cuffs of old point lace. Eight bridesmaids followed, wearing pretty dresses of cream barège, made with plaited skirts, finished with flots of velvet ribbon and smocked bodices; straw sailor hats, trimmed with velvet to match; each carried a large posy of dark red chrysanthemums, and wore a pearl brooch, the gifts of the bride and bridegroom. Mrs. Luckock, mother of the bride, was attired in deep gold shot silk, with black velvet bodice, and jet bonnet trimmed with gold wings. Mrs. Arbuthnot was in black velvet, with bonnet to match. Mrs. Thompson, aunt of the bride, wore grey silk trimmed with velvet, and a ruby velvet bonnet; Mrs. Henry H. Thompson, plum-coloured velvet, striped with silk of a much paler shade, and bonnet to match; and Miss Clara Thompson, brown velvet. The Rev. Canon Carter, of Clewer, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Canon Lowe, D.D., of Ely. The wedding party afterwards reassembled at Bailey's Hotel, Gloucester-road, Queen's-gate, where the wedding breakfast was given by Canon and Mrs. Luckock. In the afternoon the Rev. George and Mrs. Arbuthnot took their departure on their way to Rome and the Riviera. The bride's travelling costume was of brown cloth, trimmed with velvet and sable, with bonnet of dark brown velvet and red wings, and muff *en suite*.

An interesting meeting took place recently at Dunnikier, in celebration of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Drummond, of Megginch. A large party of relations having met the previous evening, the morning was spent in receiving congratulations from absent friends. A gracious letter was received from the Queen, together with two framed photographs of Her Majesty and of Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, in the dresses worn at their Royal Highnesses' marriage. Telegrams arrived from all parts of Scotland and England, and one from America. A splendid bouquet of white flowers—arums, eucharis, tuberose, &c.—arrived from Edinburgh, sent by the children of Lady Stewart Richardson, of Pitfour. Photographs were taken of the happy couple in the library, where they were married fifty years ago, and also groups of the whole party. Among those present at the dinner were Major Oswald, of Dunnikier; Mrs. Oswald, Miss Oswald, Miss Mary Oswald, Miss Emily Oswald, Miss Lina Oswald, Captain St. Clair Oswald, 3rd Hussars; Mr. John Drummond, of Megginch, and Mrs. Drummond; the Duchess Dowager of Athole, Miss Murray Macgregor, Lady Frances Baillie, the Earl of Elgin, Miss Drummond, of Megginch; Miss Smythe, of Methven; Mrs. Archer Houblon, Hoylbury, Essex; and Miss Elizabeth Oswald, sisters of the bride; Mr. Archer Houblon, Colonel Drummond Hay, of Seggieden; the Very Rev. the Dean of St. Andrews, &c. After dinner a presentation of a gold-mounted casket was made to Mr. and Mrs. Drummond. The presentation was made by Major Oswald in the name of a large number of Mr. and Mrs. Drummond's relations.

The marriage of Mr. Edward P. Philip Frith, youngest son of Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A., and Miss Edith Margaret Isabella Whiteside, only daughter of Mr. W. S. Whiteside, of the Board of Revenue, Madras, and granddaughter of the late Sir George H. Barlow, Bart., G.C.B., was solemnised at St. Mary Abbotts Church, Kensington, on the 21st ult. The bride, who was given away by her cousin, Captain Sir Morison Barlow, Bart., was attired in bodice and train of striped velvet and faille française over a petticoat of Brussels lace, caught up with wreaths of orange blossoms, oranges, and jessamine; a wreath to correspond in her hair, and a tulle veil. Her ornaments comprised a diamond star, the gift of her mother; and diamond solitaire earrings and diamond brooch, the bridegroom's presents. There were six bridesmaids in attendance, wearing costumes of cream silk Indian muslin, trimmed with Valenciennes lace, and gold coloured sashes, wreaths of marguerites and tulle veils, white shoes and gloves, and each carried a posy of marguerites. The service was performed by the Rev. Dr. Grey. After breakfast, which was confined to the nearest relations of the contracting couple, the newly-wedded pair left for Fitzwalters, lent by the brother-in-law of the bridegroom, for the honeymoon. The bride wore a mouse-coloured striped velvet skirt, draped with camel's hair cashmere, trimmed with passementerie to match, jacket of striped velvet, and mouse-coloured bonnet, with velvet ribbons, relieved with orange and red ospreys.

At St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, on the 2nd inst., the marriage was solemnised of Mr. Rowland John Beech, 2nd Life Guards, of The Shawe, Staffordshire, and Brandon Lodge, Rugby, with Adelaide Frederica, only daughter of the late Mr. Robert Capel Cure, of Blake Hall, Essex. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Captain Capel Cure (20th Regiment), was attired in the richest white duchesse satin, made with a very long square train. The petticoat was trimmed with exquisite Brussels lace flounces and orange blossoms, and a wreath of the same flowers in her hair was covered with a Brussels lace veil (which, together with the flounces, was the gift of her mother), fastened with magnificent diamond brooches, the gift of her brother. Her lovely bouquet was presented to her by the bridegroom's troop. The bridesmaids were dressed alike in white Valenciennes lace over white satin trimmed with bows of satin ribbon; had white feathers in their hair and tulle veils; the youngest, a little niece of the bridegroom, wearing a picturesque hat of lace and satin. All carried bouquets of red geraniums, bouvardia, and violets, tied with Household Brigade ribbon, and wore a pearl and diamond bee brooch, both being the presents of the bridegroom. The service, which was fully choral, commenced with a hymn. The Rev. Canon Edward Capel Cure, rector of St George's, Hanover-square, and the Rev. Francis Murray, M.A., rector of Chislehurst, uncles of the bride, performed the marriage rite. The bridal party, about 200 in number, afterwards reassembled at Mrs. Capel Cure's house in Eaton-square, when among the relatives and friends of both families present were the Earl and Countess of Dundonald, Lord Brabourne, Lord and Lady Macdonald, Lady Louisa Moncrieff, Lord and Lady Napier of Magdala, Dowager Lady Mordaunt, Lady St. Leonards, Lady Laura Grattan, the Ladies Pratt, Lady Bateman, Lord and Lady Congleton, and the Hon. Madeline Parnell, Lady Dallas, Lady Katherine Loftus, Lord Fitzwarrine Chichester, Lady Tierney, Colonel the Hon. Charles and Mrs. Fox Powys, Hon. Hussey and Mrs. Vivian, the Right Hon. Sir Montague Smith, Sir Charles and Lady Smith, Sir Brydges and Lady Henniker, the Hon. Kenneth Howard, Colonel and Mrs. Learmonth, Canon and Mrs. Capel Cure, Colonel Madocks, Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Gore, Major and Mrs. Napier, Captain H. Capel Cure, Captain and Mrs. Arthur Capel Cure, Captain and Mrs. Rose and Miss Rose, Mrs. Beech, Mr. Herbert Murray, C.B., Mr. Peel (2nd Life Guards), Mr. Naylor Leyland (2nd Life Guards), Mr. and Hon. Mrs. H. Madocks, Mr. Gillett, Mrs. Capel Cure, Miss Gertrude Capel Cure, Mr. Ward Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Tufnell, Mrs. Glyn Vivian, Miss Mabel Tufnell, Mrs. and Miss Sandeman, Mr. Arthur Capel Cure, the Misses Madocks, Mr. C. M. Beech, Mr. F. Lloyd and Miss Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Vandeleur, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Capel Cure, Mr. and Mrs. John Clarke, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Lloyd, Mrs. Ford, Mr. Howarth, and the Rev. Francis Murray. At four o'clock the newly-married couple took leave of their friends, and started for Dover on their way to Paris. The bride's travelling dress was of Sevres plush, with bonnet and muff to match.

The wedding of Mr. Charles Lowell, son of the Rev. Robert F. Spence Lowell, of Schenectady, U.S., and nephew of Mr. James Russell Lowell, the late American Minister at the Court of St. James, to Miss Beatrice Kate Hardcastle, third daughter of Mr. John Hardcastle, was recently solemnised at Cranham Church. The bride was attended by her two sisters and a little niece as bridesmaids; the latter in white plush, and the others in red velvet, the bridal dress being of white silk, with pearl front, prettily arranged with lace and feathers. At the conclusion of the ceremony, which was conducted by the Rev. E. Mogridge, the contracting parties passed down the nave, to the strains of the Wedding March. From the church to the carriage the path was strewn with flowers. Arrived at Cranham Lodge, breakfast was served to the guests, and later on the newly-married pair left *en route* for Oxford and India. The bride's travelling dress was of green merveilleux and striped velvet, with bonnet to match.

Miss Leila Justice, daughter of Colonel Clive Justice, C.M.G., of Newstead, was on the 15th inst. married at St. Saviour's Church, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, to Mr. William Oliver Warner, of the Colonial Civil Service. The bride, who was accompanied by her father, wore a dress and train of ivory-coloured satin, with skirt trimmed with pearl embroidery, tulle veil with orange blossoms in the train and on the dress. The bridesmaids wore dresses of apricot merveilleux satin and deep flounce of coffee-coloured lace, with bonnets and large sashes of apricot velvet, and each wore a pearl and diamond arrow, the gift of the bridegroom. Mrs. Clive Justice (the mother of the bride) was dressed in ruby velvet. The two little bridesmaids of two and three years of age—viz., Miss Marion Justice and Miss Maud Justice (sister and cousin of the bride) were dressed in peacock blue plush jackets over pale blue dresses covered with cream-coloured lace, blue plush hats lined with pale blue and trimmed with cream lace. The Lord Bishop of Barbadoes performed the ceremony, assisted by the Rev. C. I. Burland, Vicar of St. Saviour's, and the Rev. G. Fryer (curate). The wedding breakfast was given at Newstead. Mr. and Mrs. Warner left about three o'clock for Paris.

Major Dugald J. P. Campbell, the City Marshal, died on Wednesday morning at his office within the Mansion House, after a very brief illness.

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